

Zia stirs up Shia and Sunni enmities

TREVOR FISHLOCK, Our South Asia Correspondent, discusses Islamic conflicts in Pakistan in the second of two articles on the making of an Islamic state.

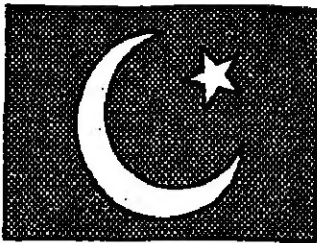
Fighting between the Sunni Muslim majority and Shia minority in Karachi recently sent a shiver through the Government of President Zia-ul-Haq. Although the trouble was local and confined, there was concern that it was the inescapable by-product of the President's Islamization drive. In other words, there is anxiety that his determination to make Pakistan thoroughly Islamic is sowing discontent.

Since he came to power more than five years ago, General Zia has come to believe, like Oliver Cromwell, that his autocratic command is part of some divine purpose. His obsession with making Pakistan Islamic, rather than simply Muslim, has grown stronger. Sunnis make up about four fifths of the population, but Shias are an important minority, not least because they are strong in the business community and tend to be better educated.

The President has already had to give in to them on the question of *Zakat*, a 2½ per cent tax he introduced as part of his Islamization programme. The Shias protested furiously that the Koran decrees *Zakat* should be paid voluntarily and not by government order. The President had to back down and the Shias are excused the tax.

The Government's relationship with Shias is complicated by the revolution in predomi-

PAKISTAN



Part 2 Islamic conflicts

nantly Shia Iran. The Pakistanis privately suspect that Iranians have been stirring trouble among Pakistani Shias but do not make public accusations because they want to maintain a reasonable relationship with Tehran. Pakistan is naturally concerned about what might happen to its volatile neighbour after Ayatollah Khomeini leaves the scene.

It is not only among Shias that Islamization is regarded with suspicion. Many women, too, believe they stand to lose much by the imposition of rigid Islamic standards. They have demonstrated to challenge both Islamization and martial law. The brutality of the police in breaking up a women's demonstration in Lahore recently aroused the wrath of many men.

Because of the Islamization push, Islamic hardliners feel confident in demanding enactment of laws which discriminate against women. For example, it has been suggested that it would need the evidence of two women to equal the

testimony in court of one man, and that the death penalty should be awarded for the murder of men, but not women.

In Pakistan's universities Islamic fundamentalist students, strongly opposed to the emancipation of women, have done badly in elections. Nevertheless, conflict between hardliners and moderate and left-wing student groups continues to be a source of trouble.

Unruliness in colleges is one of the reasons for a damaging decline in the quality of college life and, as letters in the newspapers indicate, concern about education is deep and widespread.

Education in Pakistan is in a chronic position, and teaching everywhere is inadequate. The country spends less than 2 per cent of its budget on education, compared with nearly half on its military outlay. Literacy is only 24 per cent and in some parts of the country the literacy rate is falling. "Our tomorrow is being lost" is the refrain of complaints about education.

President Zia's critics complain that he emphasizes the penal aspects of Islam rather than its practical and social side and that a noticeable effect of his attempt to harness religion is the spread of hypocrisy. They say Islam is employed cynically to keep the people within a rigid framework.

The President grows more comfortable in the job and more sure of himself. He seems somehow sleeker. "Oh yes, I'm an autocrat", he says, with an affable smile.



Zia grows more comfortable in the job, more sure of himself and somehow sleeker. "Oh yes, I'm an autocrat", he says with an affable smile.

General Zia has given Pakistan nearly six years of order, but is an agent of disunity rather than the basis of harmony, and it is doubtful that it is strong enough to bind together Pakistan's disparate regions and classes.

Concluded

FBI spied on Robeson 30 years

From Christopher Thomas, New York

The Federal Bureau of Investigation maintained a 30-year surveillance of Paul Robeson, the black singer and actor, including tapping his telephone, bugging his house and intercepting mail.

The FBI compiled a report of more than 3,000 pages on the instructions of J. Edgar Hoover, its former director, in which it concluded that Robeson was a member of the Communist Party and a threat to national security.

An army of agents and paid informants was enlisted to keep watch on his every movement. It received active assistance from the State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency, and Intelligence groups from the US Navy and Army. Robeson's wife, Eslanda, was also kept under close watch.

Details of the surveillance are contained in official papers obtained by a publishing company in New Jersey under the Freedom of Information Act. They show that between 1943 and 1963 Robeson was on the FBI's "custodial detention" list of people to be detained within 24 hours in the event of a national emergency.

In 1950 Robeson was refused a passport because he would not sign a document stating that he was a communist. Eight years later the Supreme Court struck down that requirement and Robeson went to London until 1963. He returned when the FBI conceded that it had no firm evidence he was a Communist Party member. He died in 1976 at the age of 77.

Spanish coup trial

Judges assert civil rule over military

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Acts committed by the armed forces will be judged for the first time since the restoration of democracy in Spain by the civilian Supreme Court when the appeal hearing begins here today over the February 23, 1981, coup attempt.

The seven judges of the Supreme Court's Second Chamber will thus assert civilian authority and half over the military. This was made possible by Parliament when in November, 1980, it reformed the code of military justice.

The judges will also be the first civilians pronouncing on the coup plot which led to 330 MPs and the full Cabinet being kept prisoner in Parliament for more than 17 hours by Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, while Lieutenant-General Jaime Milans del Bosch had his tanks out in Valencia and proclaimed martial law.

The Supreme Court will not, however, review the facts established by the Supreme Council of Military Justice during a court martial lasting three and a half months last year, but only examine whether the military court of 16 members, including only six trained lawyers, acted within the law.

Headed by Judge Fernando Diaz Palos, the president of the Second Chamber, who was appointed in 1979, the judges will be hearing the appeals based essentially on the former Centre Democratic Government's contention of excessive leniency towards the plotters and those lodged by the accused men who maintained that they had never taken part in any military uprising.

Senor Luis Barron, the Prosecutor General, appointed by the Socialist Government, will demand higher sentences for all except General Milans and Colonel Tejero who both received the maximum 30-year jail sentence for military rebellion.

Colonel Tejero, who is held in a naval prison in southern Spain, indicated yesterday through his lawyer that he was expecting the Supreme Court to quash his conviction.

Twenty-three of the 31 officers and one civilian who went on trial more than a year ago have filed appeals.

None of the accused will be present during the hearings likely to last about a week. But members of their families are expected to figure prominently among the public.

All those whose jail terms of three years and above are confirmed by the Supreme Court will be dismissed from the service after serving the sentence.

Counsel for both General Milans and Colonel Tejero are expected to plead again that their clients acted exclusively from patriotic motives and in a belief that King Juan Carlos sympathized with their goals. The court martial accepted the former plea but rejected the latter.

Colombian quake relief 'blocked'

Bogotá (AP and AFP) - The Colombian Red Cross emergency relief office has said the organization received none of the medical supplies donated by the United States for earthquake victims.

The agency and a Government Minister both denied the supplies were being sold after Catholic church officials and witnesses said some of the relief supplies left for distribution with the Colombian Army were being sold to the homeless in the stricken city of Popayán.

Señor Bernardo Ramirez, the communications minister, said the information was absolutely false.

The United States Air Force delivered 6,000 tents and 25 tons of medicine and hospital equipment last Friday, 24 hours after the earthquake devastated the southern city of 200,000 residents, killing at least 240 people, injuring 1,200 and leaving up to 50,000 homeless.

The Red Cross has seen none of the medical aid, and the Army has said nothing about delivering it to the Red Cross, a spokesman for Señor Carlos Martínez, director of emergency relief for the agency, said.

He added that the Army had delivered only two dozen of the 6,000 tents to the Red Cross. The spokesman asked not to be identified because he feared retribution by the military authorities.

A spokesman in the office of Colonel José Garzón, director of public relations for the Defence Ministry, said reports that the Army was withholding distribution of relief were lies.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Popayán, Mgr Silverio Builago, said on Sunday that tents meant for the earthquake victims were being sold for as much as \$400 (£265). Dozens of refugees said they had been offered the tents for up to \$100.

Official sources said electricity and supplies of drinking water had been restored in 70 per cent of the city, and that mass vaccination programmes had prevented an outbreak of disease.

Yugoslavia faces drop in tourism

From Dassa Trevizan, Belgrade

The Yugoslav Government is hoping to reap some \$1,100m (£750m) from this year's tourist harvest, despite early signs that interest in Yugoslav summer holidays has dropped, according to first reports, by as much as 20 per cent.

The aim which, even in normal circumstances, would be regarded by Yugoslav tourist experts as extremely optimistic, is clearly not likely to be achieved.

Last year, some 18 million tourists spent their holidays in Yugoslav resorts, including about six million from the West. Nevertheless, the intake from Western tourists was only \$850m instead of the planned \$1,100m.

This year, however, additional problems have cropped up, as Western tourist agencies have been reluctant to enter into arrangements for package deals before securing hard guarantees that the shortages, especially of petrol, which provoked much anger among the visitors, will not be repeated.

Motorists last year had to wait for hours in queues only to discover that petrol had run out, whereas self-catering tourists trying to buy milk or meat found there was none.

The lesson was learnt, and Yugoslav tourist officials are claiming that the country is now over-coming such problems. There will be no petrol restriction for foreign tourists provided they buy petrol coupons with hard currency.

In order to induce Western tourists to change their money at the banks, the Yugoslav Government had introduced special cheques which can be used by tourists in shops and restaurants at a 10 per cent discount.

But prices of virtually every industrial product continue to rise, while those of fresh foods sold on the free market are already on a par with, or even higher, than in some Western countries.

Two left-wing papers face closure in Italy

From John Earle, Rome

The survival of two newspapers and a radio station representing different shades of Italian left-wing opinion - is under threat - the Radical Party's radio network, and the Rome newspapers *Passe Sera* and *Il Manifesto*.

The Ministry of Post has ordered the closure in five days of the Radical's radio stations on the ground that they cover most of the national territory. By law, RAI, the state broadcasting corporation, has a national monopoly, and private radio and television stations should only transmit on a local basis. However in practice several large networks owned by private capital operate throughout the country without harassment from the authorities.

"We will not give in to this Fascist operation" commented Signor Marco Pannella, the leader of the Radical Party, commented.

Passe Sera yesterday appeared under the management of its journalists, in defiance of an order from the owners to close down for good at Easter. The newspaper, which once has morning and evening editions, used to be financed by the Communist Party, but last year it was sold to a company whose

ownership has remained unidentified.

The new owners announced plans to revive the evening edition and to station correspondents abroad, but sales plunged and last week came the abrupt decision to close.

The journalists, intending to continue to publish the paper under their own management, have appealed to the public for backing.

Il Manifesto, with a circulation of about 25,000, represents views to the left of the Communist Party. The editor was due to draw a cheque last week for 600m lire (£285,000) as a newspaper subsidy, allocated by the state to all newspapers according to their circulation. But on Good Friday payment of the cheque was stopped on technical grounds by the state attorney's office.

The newspaper says it can continue publication until the end of this month, and is meanwhile appealing for loans from political parties and the trade unions. President Sandro Pertini, who is on holiday in the Dolomites, has telephoned the newspaper expressing his personal solidarity and urging it not to give up the struggle.

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Restrictions on solicitors

Edwards and Others v Worboys
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Dillon
[Judgment delivered March 25]

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by Mr Peter Jack Worboys, solicitor, of Wheatthorpe, Hertfordshire, against interlocutory injunctions granted by Mr Justice Walton on March 18, 1983, at the suit of the plaintiffs, the six other members of the firm of Neve, Son & Co of Luton, restraining Mr Worboys until the trial of the action or further order from, *inter alia*, doing any act or work normally done by solicitors for any person, firm or corporation who or which had been a client of the firm in the five years preceding March 31, 1983.

Mr Worboys, who had been a partner in the firm of Neve, Son & Co since 1969, had given notice of his intention to retire from the firm on March 31.

Mr Michael Essary, QC and Mr Michael Driscoll for Mr Worboys; Mr Gerald Godfrey, QC and Mr Martin Roth for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that it was a dispute between solicitors. Mr Worboys was a senior partner in the firm of Neve, Son & Co, which had offices at Luton, Harpenden, Dunstable and Hitchin. The partners were regulated by partnership articles which provided for retirement on notice. Mr Worboys gave notice of his intention to retire from the practice on March 31. He was entitled to do so.

The articles provided for three five-year restrictions on the outgoing partner from the time of his leaving: (1) not to practise as a solicitor within five miles of a partnership office; (2) not to do any work normally done by solicitors for any person or firm within five miles of such office; (3) not to do any work for any person, firm or corporation who or which had been a client of the partnership within five years preceding the retirement.

There was an exception for work for members of the retiring partner's family or for any bank, insurance company and specified associations. Mr Worboys was in charge of the Harpenden office. His home was in Harpenden. He would like to start up a practice of his own in or near Harpenden.

He had formed the view that the restrictions were too wide and were void. He had invited the proceedings at an early date for the parties to know where they stood.

The judge had granted interlocutory injunctions in the terms of each of the three restrictions and also against soliciting.

The judge had said that the question he had to determine on the application for interim injunctions was whether there was a serious case to be argued that the restrictions were valid. He was not deciding their validity.

It was accepted that the area restriction in (1) was valid but injunctions in respect of (2) and (3) were attacked. (3) was the more important.

It was said that there was no serious issue as to (3) because it had already been laid down in *Oswald Hickson Collier & Co v Carter-Ruck* (1982) 126 SJ 120; *Law Society Gazette*, April 7, 1982 that such a restriction was contrary to public policy and void.

That case had come on appeal from Mr Justice Jupp at an interlocutory stage. Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, who was concerned with a completely different term entitling the retiring solicitor to act for a client whom he had introduced to the firm, had said that a clause preventing one of the partners from acting for a client in the future would be contrary to public policy because there was a fiduciary relationship between them.

The other two members of the court did not lay down any rule of law with regard to solicitors or others in a fiduciary position.

All they were saying was that there was a serious issue of public policy. That was what Mr Justice Walton had done.

He had accepted that there was a serious issue to be tried but that was a long way from saying that it would be an issue to be tried which there was an issue to be tried which there was an issue to be tried.

He sought to protect clients by the words "without the consent of the plaintiffs" in the injunctions and in the case of any particular client application could be made to the court.

The course adopted by the judge was very sensible and justifiable. It was impossible to say that the plaintiffs were bound to fail on the restriction (3). The partnership articles excluded work for such a body as a bank.

The validity of a covenant was not to be tried by improbabilities which might fall within its wording: see *Horne County Districts Ltd v Skilton* (1970) 1 WLR 526, 534, 538.

His Lordship would not interfere with the judge's conclusion upon balance of convenience and whether damages would be a sufficient remedy.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, agreeing, said that *Oswald Hickson Collier & Co v Carter-Ruck* was no more than a decision that there was a serious question on the issue of law concerning the alleged unenforceability on the ground of public policy of a covenant which prevented a solicitor from acting for a client if and when that client wished him to act.

His Lordship would not express any view on how that issue should be resolved without full argument of a type would be quite inappropriate in interlocutory proceedings. The earliest possible date for the trial should be arranged.

Solicitors: Penningtons; Sharpe Pritchard & Co for Lee Crowder & Co, Birmingham.

Advertising manager guilty of publishing unlawful advertisement

Denham v Scott
Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice McNeill
[Judgment delivered March 30]

An employee of a company which published an advertisement offering a reward for the return of goods which had been stolen and using words to the effect that no questions would be asked could be guilty of an offence under section 23 of the Theft Act 1968. The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when dismissing the defendant's appeal against conviction by way of case stated.

Mr Giles Eyre for the defendant; Mr Christopher Tyrer for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that the *Oxford Journal* was a free weekly newspaper with a circulation of 125,000 copies a week. The greater part of the content was taken up by advertisements. The newspaper was owned and published by a limited company who employed the defendant as their advertising manager.

The defendant was one of two employees responsible for the publication and to whom the company delegated control. The defendant had overall responsibility for checking advertisements and for deciding which advertisements would be published.

The offending advertisement appeared on February 12, 1982, in the lost and found section. It stated: "Brass 12" long cylinder coffee grinder, lost from house on Hinksey Hill recently of greatest sentimental value. Tel. . . . £5 reward. no questions asked."

The defendant did not inspect the advertisement before it was published and had no knowledge of the fact that it appeared in the newspaper.

The justices were of the opinion that the offence was of a quasi criminal nature and did not require *mens rea* and that having regard to the degree of control delegated to the defendant, he could be said to have published the advertisement and convicted the defendant. The defendant appealed.

His Lordship found that section 23 offences fell into the class of quasi criminal acts. A conviction did not result in any stigma and was a regulatory requirement to prevent such acts as a matter of public policy.

It would be impossible for the prosecution to prove an element of knowledge and to impose such a requirement would defeat the purpose of the section, which was to prevent activities of this kind. Section 23 was therefore an offence of strict liability.

Turning to whether it could be said on the facts that the defendant published the advertisement, it was plain that the only person who could be said to be the controlling mind of the company for the purpose of publication of the advertisement was the defendant.

The defendant in his position in the company did publish the advertisement and was the only person who could do so. If he did not do so, no publication could take place.

Accordingly, the defendant did publish the offending advertisement and could be guilty of an offence under section 23 and the appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Laytons; Mr C. S. Road, Kidlington.

Judge applied wrong test

Regina v Blithing
Before Lord Justice Watkins, Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice Cantley
[Judgment delivered March 29]

A judge applied the wrong test when exercising discretion in refusing to exclude a written statement which was heavily prejudicial to the defendant made by a prosecution witness who had died. The judge refused to exclude the statement unless its admission was demonstrated to be grossly unfair to the defendant, whereas a plea for exclusion ought to have succeeded if the judge concluded that it would be simply unfair to the defendant to admit it.

The Court of Appeal so held when giving a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by Christopher George Blithing, of Sandringham, Norfolk, London, against conviction for theft on a retrial after a jury disagreement at Kingston upon Thames Crown Court (Judge Main and a jury).

Mr Judge Bing for the appellant; Mr P. J. Richardson for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that the appellant, a heavy goods vehicle driver, acquired on hire-purchase for £595 from SDG Motors Ltd, of Northolt, a second-hand Triumph 2000 car. He paid the first instalment and no more.

The agreement provided that the car would not become his property until all the instalments were paid. Before then he had neither the right to assign his rights under the agreement nor to sell the car.

In breach of those terms, so it was alleged, he sold the car to one Michael McKenzie for £450. According to McKenzie, who said he knew nothing about the hire-purchase agreement, he and his wife gave the appellant a cheque for £500 and a little later £400 in cash whereupon the appellant gave him the car, its log book and MOT certificate.

The two men kept in touch with one another afterwards because the appellant did some repairs to the car for McKenzie. Their dealings with one another were described by McKenzie in a statement which was put in at the trial. The statement was section 1 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967.

McKenzie, who had been made the subject of an unconditional sentence order, died soon afterwards. The judge admitted his statement to the jury at the trial.

The appellant admitted having received a cheque for £500 from McKenzie but maintained that that was for work he had done on McKenzie's Vauxhall motor car. He denied that he received any time £400 or any other sum in cash from McKenzie.

What had really happened according to him was that he and McKenzie exchanged cars. He took McKenzie's Vauxhall and gave McKenzie the Triumph.

There was an exchange of all necessary documents and McKenzie promised to pay the remainder of the hire-purchase instalments of the Triumph. To facilitate that he was given the paying-in book, only one paying-in slip within which had been used by the appellant.

The appellant thought that he was doing nothing wrong in dealing with the Triumph in that way. He had previously bought a Sunbeam Rapier car on hire-purchase from SDG. He had no complaint to him when he had passed that on to another man who paid the outstanding hire-purchase charges on it. He was, he said, well aware that he had not sold the car but he had not done so.

Mrs McKenzie was not called to give evidence. The hire-purchase agreement, although mentioned at the trial and formally made an exhibit, was not otherwise referred to. The jury were neither shown it nor provided with a copy of it.

The judge admitted McKenzie's statement in evidence consequent on an application therefor by the prosecution under the provisions of section 1(3) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, which were applied to written statements as they applied to depositions by section 2(7) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967.

The application was opposed by counsel for the appellant, who had submitted on appeal that the statement was wrongly admitted. The judge had a discretion in the matter which he should have exercised in favour of the appellant, who did, their Lordships thought, the statement was gravely prejudicial. McKenzie had not been examined in the magistrate's court and obviously could not be cross-examined in the Crown Court. Consequently many pertinent and vital questions remained unanswered covering such things as what had become of McKenzie's Vauxhall; seeing that McKenzie agreed that the appellant had done some repairs of it for him, what he had paid for that work; was not the £500 said to be a deposit, in fact that payment; and why if he had paid £400 to the appellant did he pay it in cash and fail to obtain a receipt for the money?

McKenzie would have had to face a stern challenge to his veracity. His reaction to that in the eyes of the jury could have been very favourable to the appellant.

His Lordship said that the prosecution's case against the appellant without the statement was extremely tenuous.

The use of the adjective "gross" was inappropriate and misleading, and did, their Lordships thought, mislead the trial judge. If he had applied the right test he could not have avoided excluding McKenzie's statement, the contents of which were heavily prejudicial and, in all probability, caused the jury to convict the appellant.

Their Lordships profoundly disagreed with Mr Richardson's submission that the jury could safely provide from the evidence the answer to the question whether the appellant had acted dishonestly. The prosecution's case was that the appellant was convicted by the sale of the Triumph to McKenzie. That case was founded on McKenzie's statement. Without that the case would have been lost.

The conviction had to be quashed. An order was made for payment of costs of the appellant and the Crown out of central funds.

Solicitors: Somers & Layne, Ealing; Solicitor: Metropolitan Police.

Delay no bar to review of rent

Amberst v James Walker Goldsmith & Silversmith Ltd
Before Lord Justice Lawton; Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice Oliver
[Judgment delivered March 30]

The contractual right of a landlord to serve a notice triggering a rent review provision where time was not of the essence could not be destroyed by mere delay however lengthy.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the defendant tenants, James Walker Goldsmith & Silversmith Ltd, from the decision of Mr John Mowbray, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, on October 12, 1981, who declared that on the true construction of a lease dated August 29, 1961, and in the events the plaintiff landlord, William John Amberst, of Warden Road, Middlesbrough, was entitled to receive from the defendants as from June 24, 1975, rent at such rate as might be determined by an independent surveyor, notwithstanding that the plaintiff did not submit to the defendants a written assessment of rent for approval on or before December 25, 1974 in pursuance of the terms of the lease, but on or about May 10, 1979.

The court refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Mr Michael Rich, QC, and Mr Richard Moshi for the tenants; Mr John Hamilton for the landlord.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER said that the defendants were the tenants of commercial premises in Wembley demised for a term of 28 years from June 24, 1961. The rent reserved was £2,500 for the first 14 years and thereafter £2,500 or such higher sum as should be ascertained under the provisions of the lease.

The lease provided that the assessment of such higher sum should be made in the first instance by the landlord and submitted to the tenants for approval in writing on or before December 25, 1974.

The landlord allowed December 25, 1974 to pass without serving the triggering assessment, but on January 23, 1975, he then solicited and asking for an extension of time and asking for the matter to be referred to an independent surveyor. The tenants declined to entertain either of those suggestions.

In March 1978 the House of Lords gave their decision in *United Scientific Holdings Ltd v Burnley Borough Council* (1978) AC 904, and on June 2, 1978, the landlord's solicitors called on the tenants to appoint an independent surveyor. That received the answer that the clause in the instant case was one where time was of the essence.

The landlord issued an original summons on which it was held in May 1979 that time was not of the essence of the rent clause but that the letter of January 1975 was not the landlord's assessment of rent required to trigger off the review clause.

On May 9, 1979, a belated attempt was made to rectify that omission by serving a notice which specified an assessment of £16,000 a year. An appeal by the tenants against the declaration that time was not of the essence was dismissed in January 1980. But there was still a dispute about whether the trigger notice was valid, and the landlord issued the present originating summons.

On the appeal the tenants had been content to confine themselves to the two propositions: (1) that the delay in serving the trigger notice was unreasonable and; (2) that unreasonable delay, without agreement, was fatal to the claim.

The question of how the contract should be construed and the question of whether a party in default might have deprived himself of a right to rely on the contract had to be treated as logically distinct and separate questions.

A landlord, in serving notice, was not invoking the aid of the court to perform the contract. He was exercising his right, which was conferred on him, as properly construed.

If it was to be construed in the sense that time was of the essence he had no right to serve the notice. If it was not, then the right was not unless the tenant could show either that the contract, or that part of the contract had been abrogated or that the landlord had precluded himself from exercising it.

The tenant might do that by showing that the contract had been repudiated, for instance where he had served a notice calling on the landlord to exercise his right within a reasonable time or not at all and such notice was ignored, or that some event had happened which estopped the landlord from relying on his right.

But there was no ground for saying that mere delay, however lengthy, destroyed the contractual right.

His Lordship knew no authority for the proposition that the effect of construing a time stipulation as not being of the essence was to substitute a fresh implied term that the contract should be performed within a reasonable time and even if such a term was to be substituted the passage of a reasonable time would not automatically abrogate the contract.

Despite what Lord Salmon said in the *United Scientific* case (at p 951), his Lordship would suggest that even delay plus hardship to the tenant would not disentitle the landlord to exercise the right which he had on the true construction of the contract, unless the combination amounted to an estoppel.

The appeal should be dismissed. Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice Lawton concurred in the result.

Solicitors: Bulmer & Davis, Middlesbrough; Mr Thomas & Thomas, Middlesbrough.

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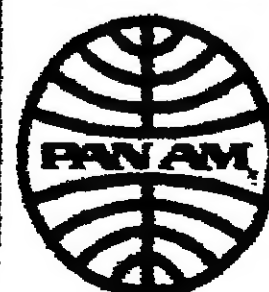
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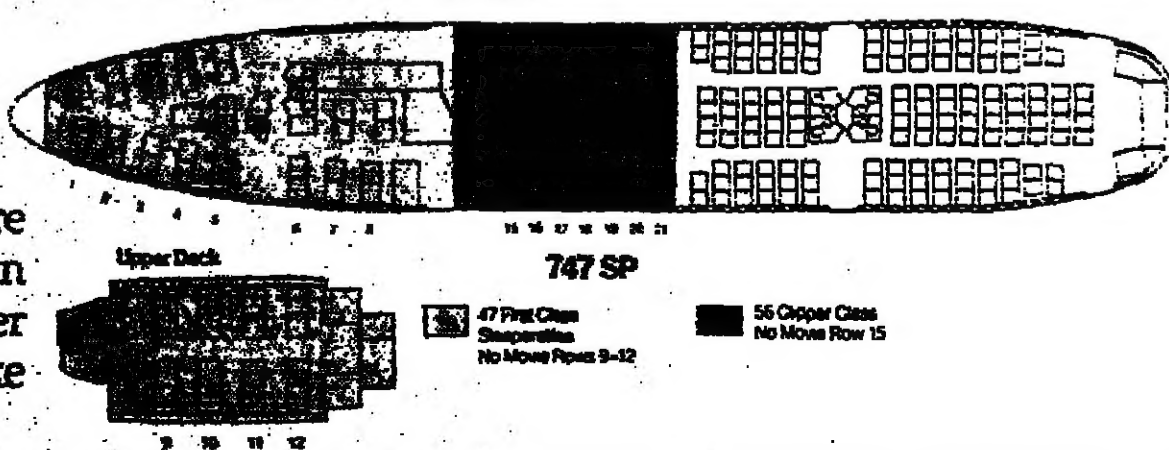
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THE ARTS

Paul Griffiths reflects on the musical machinations of time

Growing the whiskers of increasing refinement

Just suppose for a moment that we were living a century ago. Wagner is recently dead; we could have seen his *Parifal* performed for the first time at Bayreuth last year. Liszt and Hugo Wolf meet this month to discuss the future of music; Liszt advises the young man to try his hand at a symphonic poem, while he himself works at the weird keyboard meditations of his last years. Brahms will write his Third Symphony this summer. Elsewhere music burgeons in the minds of Tchaikovsky and Franck, Dvorak and Debussy, Borodin and Mahler.

They were giants in those days. Certainly the most devoted admirers of contemporary music - and I count myself to be pretty devoted - would find it hard to compile a similar list of 10 composers alive in this year of 1983 and creating at the same level.

Of course there are a great many arguments to account for the

discrepancy. They range from the severely practical to the metaphysical, from the general damping of western brains from lead pollution to the impossibility of making songs after Auschwitz and Hiroshima. They include also the lack nowadays of a generally accepted musical language, the commercial interest vested in the "classics" and the seeming indifference of most people to new music outside the general sphere of rock and jazz. As someone once said to me, why should anybody bother with contemporary music when there is so much Haydn?

But I wonder if all these arguments are not addressing a false comparison and a false problem. To be a composer now for not being Wagner, Brahms, Tchaikovsky and the rest is to suppose that the Wagner *et al.* of 1883 were the same as the Wagner *et al.* of today. Of course they were not. A century has passed, and with it their music has changed, even if the notes have stayed the same.

In the first place, it has grown old. Music never really becomes old, because it is re-created at every performance, but at the same time

music always carries within it traces of its time like any product of the human mind. It may be, therefore, that we need to project ourselves backwards if we are to appreciate, say, the operas of Massenet. It may be, too, that we miss much that had only passing relevance, that we misconstrue things that would have been abundantly plain to an audience of the time.

On the other hand, because music is the most abstract of the arts it is also the most dependent on its own traditions, which means that music of the past has gained an immense

load of meaning that was not available to its first listeners. And that meaning has been added by an array of composers, performers and critics. No spectator at *Parifal* in 1882 could have seen it as a gateway to so much in composers as diverse as Mahler and Bartok, Debussy and Richard Strauss. No one nowadays could fail to be aware at some level of the opera as a herald of things to come as well as a consummation of Wagner's own achievement.

The repetitions of countless performances, stored up in a body of tradition supporting any major work,

have also contributed a cloud of nuances, this at the start but now dense and still growing. Meanwhile critics and musicologists have similarly altered perceptions. It is entirely possible, for instance, that Wagner and Brahms would simply not understand much that is now being written about them in terms of psychological motivation and musical analysis. That does not render modern studies invalid. It just confirms that the *Parifal* and the *F* major Symphony of 1883 are not what they were a century ago, and are becoming ever less so.

Perhaps, therefore, the lesson to be learnt from comparison with the past is not that the standards of composition have declined lamentably but that the complexity of musical appreciation has increased vastly (the audience is also very much bigger, but that is another matter). If that is the case, then it could be that we can only really be satisfied with music that has grown whiskers of increasing refinement. Beethoven and Stockhausen may be tolerable by the 20th century, but by then what will Brahms and Wagner sound like?

If one wants proof of that, one only has to look at the original reviews, whose judgments and assumptions so often seem alien to the point of incomprehensibility. It is not that critics then were deaf or stupid, merely that they were remarking on experiences quite other from our own.

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Theatre in the United States II: Irving Wardle at Louisville

A celebration of writers' lib

Just-lag is nothing compared with the shock of moving from the Broadway theatre to the Actors Theatre of Louisville, Kentucky. New York theatre is a sumptuously upholstered WASP haven from the teeming, uncensored life on the streets. Downtown Louisville, despite all efforts to reclaim it, remains an urban desert where lone figures wander among the fortress-like buildings as might survivors of a neutron bomb. Set foot inside ATL, though, and all America is there from the beaches of Southern California to the snows of Minnesota, and local spectators find themselves rubbing shoulders with visitors from Haiti, Zimbabwe, Egypt and China.

This is my fourth experience of Louisville's annual Humana Festival of New American Plays, but the operation still takes my breath away; and I doubt whether any place on earth does as much to promote the work of living playwrights. ATL siffs some 4,000 scripts a year; administrators commission and awards; mobilizes subscription audiences and corporate funding; supports excellent casts with a Sufjanovic design team; and then throws a party showing off the results to the world.

Usually there are nine productions. This year there were 10, and, as one of them was too big for either the studio or the main house, the public were taken off by bus to see it in a cartage warehouse 12 miles out of town. On the door you were given a crumpled programme for Gary Leon Hill's *Food from Trash*, and then you took one of the benches surrounding a duplex apartment, an office and other simultaneous locations, all situated on an earth floor in the midst of a giant garbage dump. Periodically a white Lincoln glided through the debris, not to mention the garbage truck itself - which had been built by Paul Owen's

design unit, as the actual vehicle was too high for the warehouse doors. Environmental theatre may likewise be due for the garbage tip, but you can only salute a company that goes to such lengths to give a playwright what he wants.

There remains the question of the play itself. *Food from Trash* is the latest American rewrite of *An Enemy of the People*, simultaneously examining the commercial abuses of toxic waste and disposal and its moral effect on those who do the job. Just as Phil's "Industrial Refugee" company is poisoning the area, so his workers have come to look on themselves as garbage; and the play is as much a plea for releasing their suppressed potentialities as for transforming excrement into methane. That is a neat idea, but Mr Hill swamps it up to its neck in the steamy excesses of Southern Gothic. There is teenage nymphomania, trigger-happy law-enforcement and incessant verbal and physical violence. And, as its agent of change, the play introduces an Indian

outcast called Running Joke, who unconsciously has the scientific know-how to steal the boss's limousine and convert it to methane power before having his chest blown out by the rednecks. As a dying aria, however, he gets the chance to harangue the guilty parties with an interminable catalogue of pollutants, thus bludgeoning home the message which the play has failed to enact. This production highlights the strengths and weaknesses of the Louisville operation. Its care with actors, design and stage-management are not matched by its care with texts which often suffer from long-windedness, action-stopping memory speeches and other correctable faults that nobody has bothered to correct. As a result it succeeds more often with short plays than with those of full length, and the productions most worth dwelling on come from writers who already know their business.

Most conspicuous among them is Adele Edling Shank (whose *Sunrise/Sunset* was the festival's 1979 star attraction), who has developed her own brand of Californian "hyperrealism" and who works in partnership with her husband, Theodore Shank, who has directed *Sand Castles* in San Francisco before presenting it to Louisville. The handiest analogy for a Shank play is a Hockney painting: a cold, beautifully detailed surface, addressed to the emotionally detached observer. If she is telling a story, it is one that began long before the first scene, which you overhear and try to piece together like a conversation from an adjoining table. Such, too, is the relationship between the holiday groups in *Sand Castles*, stretched out on the beach, making fleeting contact with the natives against the surge of the Pacific breakers.

A middle-aged husband strikes up acquaintance with a solitary blade-faced beauty, and then shuffles off back to the wife he is about to divorce. A girl picks up a monosyllabic boy from the "ocean" and arranges to smuggle him into her hotel



The cold, detailed surface of *Sand Castles* (left), with Carol Shoup-Sanders and John Vennema; and Bill Smitrovich and Kent Broadhurst (as Running Joke) in the steamy excess of *Food from Trash*

room. And, while these fragmentary stories are taking shape, we observe the regular traffic of the beach: an elegant prostitute on the promenade above who keeps in touch with her tough, protective daughter by walkie-talkie; and a deranged Ancient Mariner figure who haunts the area, erupting into spasmodic violence and attempts to make it back to his native Australia by surfboard. Mrs Shank can tell stories and spring powerful surprises, as where the haughty beauty summons a leather-clad heavy who takes her gently in his arms and places her in a wheel-chair. But this writer's real achievement is to make the ordinary extraordinary, by building highly dramatic patterns without invading the characters' privacy, and revealing how much you can learn about the passing crowd if you keep your eyes open.

Two other accomplished writers - William Mastrosimone (whose *Off-Broadway hit, *Extremities*, appeared at Louisville two years ago) and Jeffrey Sweet - come together in a fine double bill on the theme of fathers and daughters. In Mastrosimone's *A Fantastical*, a professionally independent young woman invites a deranged tramp home for a meal and endures a barrage of male chauvinist insults and complaints about her cuisine, before she dresses him - a fantasy executive - in her dead father's suit and sends him on his way. What begins as an act of charity ends as a psychological exorcism.*

Mr Sweet's *The Value of Names* concerns the reunion of a Jewish comedian and the director who shopped him to the House Committee on Un-American Activities 30 years before. Their meeting comes about when the comedian's actress daughter decides to change her name and rehearse in a production by her father's old enemy. "He steals my name, you throw it away," snarls her embittered parent in a line typical of this merciless verbal duellist. Mr Sweet has a devastating command of combative Jewish wit.

But the remarkable thing is that Benny the comedian does not run away with the play, which sustains an impassioned and closely argued debate on the ethical paradoxes of betrayal and revenge from which the two old men emerge as tragically divided equals. The play is no modish exercise in blacklist chic; it is moral comedy in the best American liberal tradition, and - together with the Mastrosimone play - it supplies the material for a superb acting partnership between Larry Block and Robin Groves.

Elsewhere in the programme, the most persistent American theme was the problem of the protest-generation and the me-generation of making it in the conservative Eighties. Patrick Tovatt's *Bartok as Dog* follows the humiliations of a music-loving freelance photographer in his defeated attempts to sell out and take a humdrum office job. *Thanksgiving* by James McLure (author of *Lone Star*) brings a collection of erstwhile friends together to show off

their wounds, their glittering successes and their retreats down the corporate burrow. In Jon Jory's production, this got going with a great bang, and then ran out of steam as the drunken thanksgivers aimlessly congregated around an oriental bridge to play party games and relate their sense of loss to the state of Western civilization. Susan Kingsley, as a brusque career girl informing the Deity that the Bible could do with some sensible editing, redeems even the second act.

The most interesting of this group was Kathleen Tolan's *A Weekend Near Madison*, another reunion play in which a feminist folk-singer breaks her tour for a few days with some old friends in the wilds of Wisconsin. They are all "alternative" people, now at the midnight of youth and feeling a cold wind blowing. The atmosphere of Emily Mann's production is filled with panic and unacted desires. The Wisconsin wife (a non-writing writer) longs to get back to the filth and junk-

food of New York. Since a professionally expedient abortion she cannot face her husband, Vanessa, the singer spends the weekend prying herself to invite one of the men to give her a child. These are gentle, pacific people, and the play takes its force from the eruption of violent impulses in characters whose first imperative is to be kind to one another; most memorably in Mary McDonnell's Vanessa, perpetually masked behind her radiant smile and encouraging exclamations of "wow", "great" and "incredible".

The same spirit, also, also infects the writer, who winds up the play first with a round of "goodnights", then a round of "goodnights", finally leaving one character alone to switch off the lights in slow motion and fade out in the act of nibbling a biscuit. Louisville is the American playwright's Mecca, but it could do with a hefty consignment of blue pencils.



Mary McDonnell masked behind radiance in *A Weekend Near Madison*

London debuts

Stamina and breadth of vision

In her debut recital in Western Europe the Armenian pianist Nellie Akopjan justified her reputation as something of a Schumann specialist with her performance of that vast triptych the Fantasy in C major. She had both the stamina and the breadth of vision to be able to negotiate this towering monument with comparative ease, whether in the tempestuous sprawl of the first movement, in the crashing, widely-spread and almost ostentatious marching chords of the central one, or in the searing poetry of the closing slow movement. Her Chopin was just as impressive, and she drove the B minor Sonata with firm technical control, yet achieved both there and in a pair of Nocturnes a glowing warmth in her sound and an immaculate sense of formal balance. At the same time, she kept a subtle element

of dryness which helped the music retain something of its Polish quality beneath all the Frenchified elegance on its surface.

A slightly younger British pianist, Simon Shewring, was scarcely less accomplished. He began boldly with Beethoven's Bagatelles, Op 126, revelling in the astonishing variety of mood which makes the cycle as stormy and as visionary as a late piano sonata. At the other end of his programme he gave a remarkably clean but highly charged reading of Brahms's exuberantly inventive Handel Variations, Op 24. Between these pieces there was less substantial fare, though quite as difficult to play. A Liszt Ballade, a pair of Etudes-Tableaux by Rachmaninov, and a rather long Poulenc oddity, the *Theme varie* of 1951, were

played not only with virtuosity but, even more laudably, with modesty and impeccable taste.

Hooley and Robin Bowman, a violin and piano duo, gave the first performance in London since 1889 (when it was written) of a Sonata in D minor by Parry, a little discovery which sounded a bit like watered-down Brahms but a good deal more interesting and carefully wrought than some of Parry's choral works. Miss Hooley took some time to settle, but she had done so by her second piece, Fauré's Second Sonata, which she imbued with a strong sense of line and a passion that almost negated the complacency I feel in this music. She struggled a little with Schubert's Fantasia in C, an interminable hotch-potch of work, but gave Ravel's posthumous Sonata with refined elegance which was helped

by her unabashedly Francophile accompanist.

The British debut of the Italian violinist Mauro Loggiero in Berg's Chamber Concerto was a fine excuse to hear the youthful and enterprising Endymion Ensemble. He and the American pianist Ursula Oppens projected Berg's sometimes elusive solo lines with a rare conviction. But this is really a concerto for everyone involved, and John Whitfield elicited some lavishly expressive playing from his ensemble, shedding what for me was new light on one of Berg's most difficult scores. Mozart's Sereade for 13 wind instruments had earlier received a disciplined but imaginative reading; and the Endymion's fine players revitalized Tippett's slight but enjoyable Sonata for four horns.

Stephen Pettitt

Television

Worth the telling

The format of First Tuesday (Yorkshire) - that of a "news magazine" - is obviously not a new one; most of the "hard news" at six or nine o'clock is now treated in a glossy and anecdotal way, so that we seem to be watching a collection of short stories. But, if last night's format was conventional, the subjects were not. Gathering together all the members of Yorkshire television who have not been emasculated at TV-am, the idea of the series is to present films of such a quality that they are interesting in themselves and not simply as adjuncts to a news item.

If the first night was anything to go by (and it rarely is), success is imminent. The longest item, "The Chinese Geordie", concerned a Tynesider, David Young, who in 1949 jumped ship at Hongkong and joined the Chinese Communists. He has lived in China ever since, earning his living in a sugar mill. When he was asked how he had survived the privations of what had originally been a harsh communal life, he said that in England he had known only the Depression and the Second World War - Chinese life was easier. And, in any case, he liked the communal spirit; it reminded him of the villages of Durham.

As they say in television comedies, there is no answer to that - or, rather, the answer would have been too complicated for such a programme. And that was the trouble, Mr

Young seemed a reticent and engaging man, but one wanted to know more. Although he was seen weeping to the strains of "Jerusalem", the programme which led him to abandon England and sent him wandering in an alien land were never properly examined. What we got, instead, were pictures, and the problem with television "news magazines" of this kind is that, if they resemble any magazine at all, it is *Picture Post* rather than anything more substantial. Nevertheless, pictures can tell a kind of story - and this was an interesting one.

The other major film concerned David Tinker, who was killed while serving during the Falklands campaign but who has left as his memorial a number of letters written to his wife and family during the conflict. He was a lieutenant on HMS Glamorgan, and his mood as the task force sailed was one of euphoria - "This is great fun". This quickly changed, however, to one of anxiety - "Reality is dawning rapidly" - and then one of anger and frustration - "I cannot think of a single way in Britain's history which has been so pointless. Here was a man caught in the coils of history, all the more painful for seeming so 'pointless'. But for him, unlike David Young, there was to be no escape. If *First Tuesday* continues to present such remarkable individual lives, it will become an interesting series.

Peter Ackroyd

London theatre

Hedda in India

The Upstream

No, not such a drastic adaptation as it sounds; less so than, for example, Tony Harrison's Indian reworking of *Phaëdra* for the National, Madhav Sharma's new version of *Hedda Gabler* set in newly independent India is more like Thomas Kilroy's Irish *Seagull* at the Royal Court last year, a faithful translation in the broadest sense. Add the heavy, stifling drawing room; Peter Ling has designed, full of musty carpets and plush, dominated by a carved overmantel bearing a bust of General Gable (Gable in this British incarnation, with George VI's impeccable profile, is a close cousin of every *Hedda* set you have ever seen).

Actors Unlimited aims principally to use Asian actors, and, with this exception, how successfully they show here. Only Hedda (Jenny Seagrove) and the Judge Brack, here reborn as Commissioner Brooke in the gently poisonous person of Donald Gee, are European. Tesman, Hedda's husband, becomes Farooq Usman, still young as she is, a handsome-cramped college boy with too many aunts; and in Raad Rawi's faultless performance a comic but very credible figure, sufficiently lost-looking always to secure the female support he cannot do without.

Zohra Segal, with so much kindness and suffering in her old wrinkled face, makes an Aunt Jabeen (Juley in the original) unselfish but incessantly watchful. But most impressive, perhaps, is the equivalent of Mrs Elvsted - Josephine Welcome, demure in her sari but very beautiful, strong and unshakably loyal.

The racial divide works well, throwing Hedda and Brack together and cutting her off even more from her husband's family world. Miss Seagrove plays her as a Knightsbridge princess realising with sinking heart that she has exchanged the chance of an opening-page portrait in *The Tatler* for a prospect of endless childbearing and vicarious scholarship, but her renunciation of the original Hedda's twisted, vicious aspects restricts her performance. And while Tariq Yunus's Indian film-star looks suit the Eliot Lovborg figure, his lack of ease with English prevents his scenes from taking flight.

Still, despite occasionally slackening tension, this is a most enjoyable production. And Hedda's final suicide is unforgottably staged, as she retires upstairs, curtains of course, to her rocking chair to pull the trigger. The chair rocks slowly to a standstill under what is now a dead weight; and barely audible as the sound is, the others know without needing to look.

Anthony Masters

Concert

Philharmonia/Dutoit

Festival Hall

The sudden indisposition of Marisa Robles switched Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* back on Monday from the advertised harp version to the original for guitar, and brought to the fore, which is just where he should be, the guitarist Alexander Lagoya.

Mr Lagoya obviously engaged immediately the respect and affection of both orchestra and audience, who demanded and received a short solo encore. He earned it by playing which made one realize just how seldom, among many so-called virtuoso performances of this work, an artist is able effortlessly to recreate that synthesis of the classical and the popular in form and sentiment of which Rodrigo himself speaks.

The steady, urbane restraint of his opening was set against a virtuoso display of exquisite, fluttering delicacy, and the intensity of expression, even in the accompanying chords to the 'angels' eloquent solo in the Adagio, soon dissolved into improvisatory passages of remarkable fluidity, only to be refocused in finely wrought miniatures of counterpoint.

The Rodrigo was the pivot of a consistently enjoyable bank holiday package tour of Spain through the eyes of French composers. Charles Dutoit, who is to make his Covent Garden debut later this year in Gounod's *Faust*, introduced us to his shrewd nose for the niceties of the Gallic muse, drawing from the orchestra the quintessential responses of Ravel and Chabrier in their respective Spanish rhapsodies.

In the Ravel, Spain was intuitively and elusively present: the violins, sleek and undulating, lightly brushed the Prélude and Malagena into being, and the finest frissons of woodwind and figure evoked a 'surreal' episode of Habanera, suspended in Mr Dutoit's fine balance of tempo and pulse. The Chabrier swooped into its good-natured and unashamedly pastiche Andalusian folk tunes with splendid élan, yet always taunted and invigorated by a telling refinement of detail.

The vibrancy of this performance was testimony to an orchestra playing on tiptop form, further demonstrated in the sharp, individual and corporate responses in the concluding *Bohème* and in a *Carmen* suite nicely poised between pit and bandstand.

Hilary Finch

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On Yorkshire's famous moorland, Anne Haigh (left) is a member of a band of amateur archaeologists

whose findings may rewrite the history of Europe's Bronze Age

Stones that speak on Ilkley Moor

By Stan Abbott

For eight years Anne Haigh has meticulously scoured the 150,000 wild, wet, windy acres that are Ilkley Moor in search of the curious cup-and-ring marked stones that litter this peat and heather wasteland in West Yorkshire.

Her efforts — and those of her fellow members of the Ilkley Archaeological Group, who have invested an estimated 25,000 man-hours in their fieldwork and twice as long again cataloguing the results — seem almost insignificant in comparison with the three and a half thousand years the mysterious stones have guarded their secrets. Yet suddenly, in the space of a few weeks, the dream of every amateur archaeologist has come true for the Ilkley group as their work has suddenly acquired a significance that could ultimately require the rewriting of the prehistory not just of Britain, but of the whole of Europe.

The recent frenzy began when the group managed to persuade some of Europe's leading authorities on prehistoric rock art to visit the moor — visits that opened the door to sort of backing required to mount a full-scale exploratory excavation. That dig, carried out in the winter's most atrocious weather and against a deadline imposed by the start of the grouse breeding season, will, it is hoped, yield the dating evidence to back up the group's contention: that the cup-and-ring stones, cairnfields, enclosures and

evidence of hut circles on the moor belong not to the Iron Age (about 600BC) as originally thought but to a much earlier Bronze Age.

Soil samples now with Leeds University Plant Sciences Department may provide evidence from pollen and carbon-14 dating that the settlement originated in about 1800-1400BC. While both settlement evidence and cup-and-ring stones are found in highland Britain from Dartmoor to the Shetlands, nowhere else is the evidence linking the two so strong as at Ilkley.

"If we are right, this really advances the knowledge of Bronze Age mixed-economy highland landscapes and it does so in an area that has been previously written off by British archaeology," Bill Godfrey declares.

While Mrs Haigh, aged 69, the widow of a medical missionary, has painstakingly recorded the details of 260 cup-and-ring stones, more than half of them previously unknown, Mr Godfrey, a 49-year-old charge nurse, has been the group's "cairnfield man".

The contention is that while the highlands may have developed more slowly than areas like the Thames Valley and the Downs, they nevertheless enjoyed their own Bronze Age, which may well have endured in pockets until the arrival of the Romans, sharing cultural links with places as far away as Scandinavia and northern Italy.

"If you look at the average textbook distribution map of prehistoric Britain you find the highland areas are rather sparse," Godfrey says. "We believe this skew in the distribution maps is largely due to the fact that people haven't been prepared to slog it out in the snowstorms to find the evidence. It's been more fruitful for all these lovely professors in London and Oxford to 'do' the rolling downs."

The Ilkley group's work had its beginning in adult education classes in 1975 and over the next few years the members set about training themselves in the skills of archaeology, such as fieldwork and surveying.

"At the end of the first four or five years' work, in about 1980," Godfrey continued, "we were aware that we needed to test our ideas further. Over the last two to two and a half years we had been pushing to get some exploratory excavation work under way."

By the start of this year, that had led to West Yorkshire County Council agreeing in principle to release two staff from its archaeological unit for a short time and to the landowner, Major John Ingham, allowing the chosen site, a cairn selected because of its previously undisturbed appearance, to be excavated.

But it took visits from such distinguished prehistorians as Dr Andrew Fleming of Sheffield University, Peter Fowler, secretary of the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments and President of the Council of British Archaeology, and Professor Emmanuel Anati of the University of Lecca in southern Italy to spur the council's decision to allow work to start.

Bill Godfrey admits that persuading Professor Anati, among the world's leading authorities on prehistoric art, was the result of rather a cheeky approach to him during a conference on British prehistoric rock carving at Glasgow University last month.

On the Monday following the conference Professor Anati was due to fly home via London, but the group managed to persuade him it was worth his while breaking his journey at Ilkley. They duly rebooked his flight via Leeds/Bradford airport, whose approach path passes over Ilkley Moor, to allow a four-hour visit to the site.

"Professor Anati wasn't quite sure at first why we had dragged him all the way across the moorland," Godfrey relates, "but he became more and more excited at what he saw."

Most significant was the striking similarity between the cup-and-ring marked stones found in Lombardy and Scandinavia and those on Ilkley Moor, chiefly the elaborately carved Swastika

Stone, on which the rings round the cup form a swastika shape — virtually identical with the carvings Professor Anati had dated at around 700-1000BC.

The precise *raison d'être* of the cup-and-ring stones remains, to say the least, a matter for speculation: no fewer than 123 different theories have been officially advanced, covering just about everything from sacrificial altars to star charts to maps of the alder bush scrubland thought to have covered Ilkley Moor at the time.

A generally accepted theory is that Ilkley Moor in those days was — by contrast with the cautionary words in the popular Yorkshire anthem — a place where one could safely venture "bah'ar" (without a hat), being some 4-5 degrees F warmer, and this has inevitably given rise to speculation as to what might have sustained the upland settlements.

"This would have made summer-time habitation of the moor very much more pleasant — quite nice, in fact," Godfrey suggests. "We believe that what we see on the moor is a mixture of summer pastoral settlement plus some kind of socio-religious/religious use of the area."

Hopes that the excavation might provide immediate strong indicators, proved ill-founded and it will be some

weeks before soil analyses are complete. In any event, the development of the highland settlements chiefly found also in Dartmoor, the Peak District, North York moors, Northumberland, Galloway, along the Great Glen, Orkney, Shetland, south west Ireland and Brittany, seems to have taken a substantially different course from those in the lowlands.

"The inter-relationship between them is something we just don't know the answer to yet," Godfrey says. But the arrival of "quite large quantities" of worked flint in the highland areas where the stones does not occur naturally point to a fairly active trade — possibly involving hides and pelts — which evidence suggests was also carried out over long distances, where valuable items like Whitby jet and Scandinavian amber were involved.

Bill Godfrey believes the Ilkley Moor findings also serve as a valuable lesson for groups of enthusiastic amateurs up and down the country. "A lot of people wander around the countryside making their observations, doing a little bit here and there. They never get their information together and never consider it should be published. We started out not really knowing where we were going. It's only through persevering and researching that we have come to realise that the professionals aren't as far away from us as we thought they were."



Bill Gregory draws up a grid of an uncovered cairn. "People haven't been prepared to slog it out in the snowstorms to find the evidence."

It is easy to sneer at romantic fiction. Its image is both saccharine and cynical, the heroine disappearing into the reddening sunset wrapped in a very carefully designed cloak of glamour. But a 49-year-old Yorkshirewoman, Barbara Taylor Bradford, has quietly used it to a very commercial art.

Not only has her first novel, *A Woman of Substance*, sold more than seven million copies since it was published in 1979, but her three English-language publishers are so confident of her success that they have agreed to pay her more than \$8m for her next three novels, among the highest advances every paid to a novelist. In the past year she has become one of the three highest-earning novelists in the world.

The first of the new trio novels, *Voice of the Heart*, has just been published in Britain and America. To capitalise on their £1m investment, Mrs Bradford's English publishers, Granada, have taken the rare step of mounting a television advertising campaign to support the book.

In addition to the £1.5m she has already earned from her first book, Mrs Bradford's American agent, Morton Janklow, who also represents Judith Krantz and Shirley Conran, expects to deliver her royalty cheques amounting to £1m a year for the next five years. Barbara Taylor Bradford, who was born plain Barbara Taylor in Leeds, has become a bigger earner in fiction than Caryl Chesson or Le Carré, Puzo or even James Clavell.

"I didn't ever think about being successful," she says. "I just knew that it was what I wanted to do. I don't really think about the large royalty cheques coming in every six months or so. I've always had quite a good standard of living and it hasn't made all that much difference."

A smallish blonde woman, given to discreet jewelry and plain silk blouses, she con-

tinues: "I bought some English antiques and paid too much for them because I bought them in New York, but the rest is simply invested carefully. I already had two fur coats, and I didn't want any more. How many fur coats can you wear at one time?"

The only child of an engineer and a determined mother, she married the American film producer Bob Bradford in 1963 and moved with him to New York. She has only returned to

England since to see her parents, who lived in Yorkshire until their deaths two years ago. Although her first novel was the story of a Yorkshire girl who struggled to become a successful businesswoman and succeeded, she denies it is autobiographical. "I don't think I'm writing about myself particularly. I am just trying to tell a story."

She mentions that her mother's last words to her were: "I don't want you worrying about

me — you must finish *Voice of the Heart*." She finished it, she says, to keep grief at bay.

"When I was a child my mother encouraged me to read. I didn't have many friends, so I used to read. I'd read almost all of Dickens by the time I was 12. I didn't understand it, but I read it."

In fact she sold her first story when she was 12. "A magazine sent me a cheque for 10 shillings and sixpence and I knew I didn't want to do anything else." She ignored her parent's advice to go to Leeds University, and joined the *Yorkshire Evening Post* as a typist. At 16 she was a trainee reporter, and at 18 in charge of the women's page.

Within two years she was in London, first as fashion editor of the magazine *Woman's Own*, and then as a reporter on the *London Evening News*. After her marriage she continued to work as a journalist, specializing in design — but all the time I was thinking about novels and writing bits of them. I must have done at least three. Finally in 1976, at the age of 43, she started work on *A Woman of Substance* and she has never looked back. Even *The New York Times* called it "extra-galactic and absorbing".

It is already being made into a television series, by the same American company that persuaded the late Ingrid Bergman to portray Mrs Golda Meir — "they have a good record of doing things right, and I had turned down all sorts of other approaches to do it." Negotiations are already under way to make another series of the new novel.

"The reason I am successful, I think," she says, "is that I write about emotion and feelings, which people are fascinated by. I don't write about sex very much. I'm not interested in biological details. Everyone knows what you do in bed."

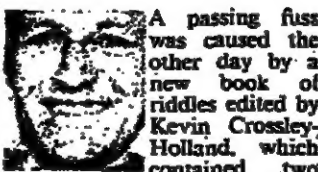
Geoffrey Wansell

The storyteller of substance



Emotions, says the novelist, speak louder than biology

Without the boundaries of good taste



A passing fuss was caused the other day by a new book of riddles edited by Kevin Crossley-Holland, which contained two jokes about Lord Mountbatten in the worst possible taste. Whenever I hear that something is in the worst possible taste, I immediately suspect that I am missing something funny, so I took steps to find out what the offending riddles were: imagine my chagrin when I found out that they were both quite familiar to me, having been told to me by my children over a year ago.

The only funny thing, in fact, was the sight of grown-up working themselves into a father of indignation over the juvenile sense of humour. Children love black humour — in my school days it was the newly imported sick jokes from America that were all the rage — and it is only when they mature that they become toffee-nosed and obsessed with good taste. In other words when they start denying the way people really think and talk.

Good taste breaks out all over the place. It broke out in Kilburn not so long ago when the council tried to outlaw the telling of Irish jokes, and were greeted by a storm of merriment from all right-minded Irishmen. I learnt all my best Irish jokes from a book published in Dublin, though of course they weren't jokes against Irishmen — they were jokes against the people of Kerry, who perform the same fictitious function there as Tasmanians do in Australia or Belgians in France.

And it broke out again last week when Tony Banks of the GLC tried to insist that the London Marathon could only take place if 20 or so disabled competitors were allowed to

MOREOVER... Miles Kington

wheelchair themselves in the race itself. Organizer Chris Brasher quite rightly pointed out that a running race is a running race, and that the last thing runners want is to find themselves falling over wheelchairs, though in the prevailing spirit of good taste, he had to put very tactfully the notion that people in wheelchairs, however worthy, were not runners in the true sense.

Now, it is one of the axioms of humour that the best jokes about minorities usually come from the minorities themselves. The funniest Catholic jokes I know were told me by Catholics. I remember with great pleasure George Shearing, the blind pianist, telling Roy Plomley on Desert Island Discs of his stint in an all-blind orchestra and of the night, just before curtain up, when one of the saxophonists yelled: "Stop! I've lost my glass eye!" If you've never seen 15 blind musicians on their hands and knees looking for a glass eye, said Shearing wryly, you haven't seen anything.

Another wonderful blind pianist, Eddie Thompson, once told me that one of the saddest moments of his life came when he achieved a great ambition, and got to drive a dogcart car at a funeral. No sooner had he started than the proprietor turned him off with the words: "I'm not having a blind man on my dogcarts; you might bump into somebody."

But the best of all blind jokes came from Stevie Wonder, the blind and black American singer/composer, who was once asked (or asked a million times, knowing interviewers) if blindness had hampered his career a great deal.

"Well, it might have been worse," said Wonder. "I could be black."

But when I heard of Tony Banks's good taste, I couldn't help thinking of Douglas Bader on the 1941 *Mythical* Parkinson Show. It was a fairly mundane show, as I remember, but the light came into Bader's eyes when they started on sport for disabled people.

"You haven't seen sport at its most furious till you've seen wheelchair basketball," he said. "It's probably the most exciting game in the world. And the dirtiest. Their wheelchairs are pitted with dents and marks where they've run into each other at full speed in an attempt to commit mayhem. I saw a game in Canada recently which I still remember with awe because both sides had taken against the referee, whom they considered to be far below standard."

"And what happened?" said Parkinson.

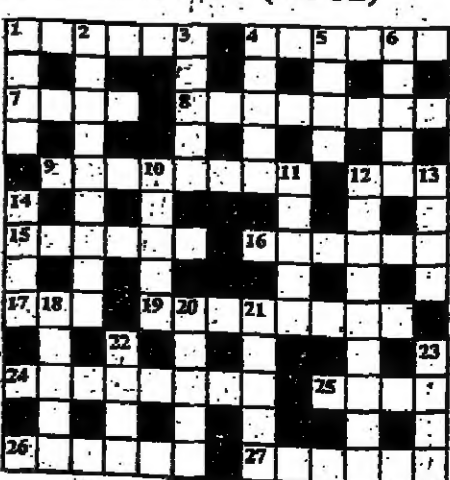
"They ran him over," said Bader promptly.

I wish Bader were still around to comment on Tony Banks. He would, I feel, probably support Mr Banks's insistence on having wheelchair athletes in the main marathon itself, on the grounds that a wheelchair athlete may not actually be able to win the race, but he could do an awful lot of damage.

And I wish I could hear Mr Banks's reply.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 32)

ACROSS
2 Floor back (6)
3 Blade (5)
7 Type (4)
8 Quail (8)
9 Bedlam (8)
12 Bedlam dwellers (3)
15 Sheds skin (6)
16 Unkempt (5)
17 Seed (3)
18 News gatherer (8)
24 Nightclub act (3,5)
25 Choice (4)
26 Withdraw (5)
27 Disgraced (6)
DOWN
1 Other (4)
2 Pierce fish (9)
3 Zest (5)
4 Solicits (5)
5 Ear part (4)
6 Greek letter (3)
10 Walker (5)
11 Anaesthetic (5)
12 Attraction (9)
13 Periods (4)
14 Invitation request



SOLUTION TO No 31
ACROSS: 1 Aisle 5 Biff 8 Adapt 9 Ice pack 11 Telegram 13 Sand 15 Adulthood 18 Innam 19 Tricycle 22 Checkup 23 Along 24 Bren 25 Cement
DOWN: 2 Seal 3 EST 4 Philanthropic 5 Blew 6 Flacid 7 Ratty 10 Kudu 12 Grub 14 Zoic 15 Amateur 16 Disc 17 Beige 20 Glow 21 Skin 23 Aim

WEDNESDAY PAGE

JOANNA LUMLEY'S DIARY

Win, lose - or simply present the prizes

"Oh, by the way," said my sister, scarcely concealing a yawn, "this arrived today," and she let an envelope flutter from her fingers. It contained a letter saying that she had won the first prize of a colour television set in a raffle. To be honest, she was very excited and delighted; she always is when she wins things, which she does with amazing regularity.

What is it that makes her win and not others? Not me, for example? The first time she won was when we bought raffle tickets in the church hall, and she got a terrifically large box of chocolates. When we shared a flat in London, she named Clement Freud's beard ("Name that beard!") Guildenstern, and was awarded a gold-plated razor. Since she married, all sorts of little goodies have appeared in her house, not least a digital clock radio.

I, on the other hand, have never won anything in my life. I have bought enough raffle tickets to paper a theatre, and have entered all kinds of competitions (mainly the ones to win ponies or bicycles) but have never been mentioned even in the runners-up list ("a five shilling record token and three free stickers"). My Premium Bonds (well, bond, actually: I have only the one) bring me no joy.

Now I am in the twilight zone where I frequently hand over prizes or massive sums of money to happy contestants. I usually wear a hat and a wide smile, and of course I am thrilled to be even a small part of the winning streak, but I think I should channel and capitalize on my sister's luck. I must get her back on to the "Complete this sentence and win your dream pony" lark. She does not want any more animals and I think she may give it to me.



The postmistress in the village has already warned me about the new one pound coins: apparently they cannot be heard when they fall as they are so light. You can hardly find them in your purse as they are so small. Soon coins will become so weedy that we shall have to wear them like lemon sherbert, lick your fingers and plunge it into your pocket and pick off the infinitesimal dots clinging to it that make up your pay packet.

On the evening of Good Friday, we watched the Bond film on television. I was on screen for almost 90 seconds altogether. It was the second film part I had played... but oh! in those days they made Motion Pictures. We, the Bond Girls, lived for two months in Mürren, in a huge gaunt hotel near the ridge. We were paid £100 a week, a small fortune in those days, and I believe we had pocket money as well. Board and lodging were free, and as the generous stuntmen and crew often

paid for our supper, we could save enough money for the weekly telephone call home and still have francs over for lipstick and chocolate.

Golden autumn days turned to winter, and the film company bought us each an off-duty Bond Girl outfit. Mine was dark green knickerbockers and a hairy green anorak (which I still have). Two months on location: a minute-and-a-half of screen time. The film I made last year rushed the principal actors in and out at a hand gallop; few of them even met, and there will be nothing to reminisce about. But on Good Friday night, I watched a parade of friends through a sentimental haze of memories. Eheu, Tempus fugit.

At the Soundaround dinner to raise money for the blind, we were to go into the dining room, take our seats and eat the first course blindfolded. It was put on the blindfolded and unable to see who was near you, sitting down in a room you had never seen, not knowing who your neighbours were. And then probing gently around the plate with your fingers to find the nature of the food (a rather moist pâté) and locating the toast and knife, and eating and drinking without making too much of a mess!

The un-blindfolded chairman on my left warned me when larger bits of pâté fell on to the tablecloth, and talked me through finding my glass. I found it hard to determine where sound came from: who was speaking, what was happening, but I was confused and I should have been scared stiff to go alone into the street or a shop.

For all my sympathy in the past with blind people, I had never actually tried to feel what it was like. Half an hour of a lifetime later, I shall never forget it.

I think the best thing about reading in bed at night is that you are quite possibly the only person in the world reading those exact words at that precise moment, causing what psychiatrists could call a one-to-one relationship with your book. The same cannot be said of the wireless or television. I said as much to John Updike and he agreed. I hope to be forgiven for the name-dropping on this scale, although normally I claim to be discreet; but when I add that I was sitting next to him at Nigel Nicolson's table, surrounded by friendly and brilliant people, while outside spring stole softly over the gardens of Sissinghurst Castle, you will understand when I say that I lead a charmed life.

This is how to play The Murderer Wins. Put as many pieces of paper into a hat as there are players, and a cross on only one. Everyone takes a turn, examines it secretly and puts it back. The murderer is the one with the cross and he, by winking subtly at each other player, kills them off in turn. The potential victims are also detectives and, if, while avoiding being slain, one can catch the murderer winking at someone else he can accuse him. When you have been winked at, you must count silently to 10 then die with panache. There are no prizes but you can have as many rounds as you like. We played it rather often over the Easter holiday, and there were satisfying crashes as people slid groaning from their chairs and bodies slumped across tables. A must for board meetings.

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

Salt and freshly ground black pepper
85g (3 oz) butter, melted
8 sheets phyllo pastry

Heat the oil in a frying pan and add the bacon. Cook it on a low heat until its fat has melted and is beginning to crisp. Chop the mushrooms in large dice about 1.25 cm (1/2 inch) square and add them to the pan. Turn them in the fat then cover and cook until they begin to give off a little liquid. Uncover the mixture, add the potatoes cut in smaller dice, season to taste, and stir on a low heat until the mixture is fairly dry.

Lay one strip of dough on a board and paint it with melted butter. Fill and fold it as shown in the diagram then paint both sides of the parcel with butter. Lay it on a greased baking sheet. Continue making the remaining puffs in the same way.

Bake the pastries in a preheated oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) for five minutes, then lower the heat to moderately hot (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) and continue baking for five to 10 minutes more, or until the pastries are crisp and golden. If you are making several batches at one time, keep the oven at the latter

setting, moving the trays to the lowest position in the oven instead of lowering the heat.

Lamb and aubergine puffs
Makes about 15
340 g (12 oz) aubergine
Salt

6 tablespoons vegetable oil
225 g (8 oz) finely chopped onion
1 clove garlic, finely chopped
225 g (8 oz) raw or cooked lamb
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
Freshly ground black pepper
85 g (3 oz) butter, melted
8 sheets phyllo pastry

Cut the aubergine, without peeling it, into large dice about 2 cm (1/2 inch) square. Salt them generously and set aside for about 20 minutes to allow the salt to draw liquid from the flesh. Rinse the cubes and dry them.

Heat half the oil in a frying pan and fry the onion until it is tender but not browned. Stir in the garlic and fry for a moment more. Take the onion and garlic out of the pan, leaving behind as much of the oil as possible. Add the remaining oil to the pan and when it is hot, fry the aubergine until it is tender. Stir frequently to stop it sticking. Return the onion to the pan and add the meat cut in small dice, or minced. Season the mixture with cinnamon, more salt if needed, and plenty of pepper. Cook it only as long as the meat

requires to be done, then use the mixture to fill the pastry and bake as directed in the previous recipe.

Curried vegetable puffs
Makes about 15
4 tablespoons vegetable oil

170g (6 oz) onion, finely chopped
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1 tablespoon ground coriander
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon ground chill
340g (12 oz) cooked potato, diced
4 spring onions, finely chopped
4 tablespoons chopped parsley or coriander leaf
Salt

85g (3 oz) butter, melted
8 sheets phyllo pastry

Heat the oil and fry the onion until tender. Stir in the garlic and spices and stir fry for a moment or two more before adding the potato. Fry and stir the mixture for a little longer then remove it from the heat and stir in the spring onion and parsley. Season it to taste with salt. Fill the pastry and bake as directed in the first recipe.

Spiced lamb twists
Makes about 10
225g (8 oz) cooked lamb

55g (2 oz) fresh breadcrumbs
2 tablespoons chopped spring onions
2 tablespoons chopped parsley

1 tablespoon curry paste
1 egg
Salt
10 sheets phyllo pastry
55g (2 oz) butter, melted

Mince, process, or finely chop the lamb and mix it with the breadcrumbs, spring onions, parsley, curry paste, egg and salt. The mixture may be rough or smooth according to taste. Lay a sheet of phyllo pastry on a board and paint it with melted butter. Place a narrow strip of filling along one long edge, leaving a 2.5 cm (1 inch) gap at either end. Roll up the pastry loosely round the filling then coil the filled cylinder of dough into a circle. Brush with butter and lay it on a greased baking tray. Make the remaining coils in the same way. Bake them in a preheated hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 7) for 5 minutes, then reduce the heat to moderately hot (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) and bake for another 5 to 10 minutes, or until the pastries are crisp and golden.

Baklava
Makes about 20 pieces
450 g (1 lb) blanched almonds

85 g (3 oz) caster sugar
1 orange
1 teaspoon ground cloves
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Trim the almonds to a preheated moderate oven (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for about 1 hour, or until the pastry is crisp and golden brown.

To make the syrup, put the sugar in a saucepan with 350 ml (12 fl oz) water and the spices. Stir on a low heat until the sugar has dissolved completely, then boil the syrup for about three minutes. Strain it over the pastry as soon as it is out of the oven, and leave it in the tin until quite cold.

Baklava keeps well for several weeks if stored in an airtight container.



Lady Olga Maitland with Women for Defence helpers and (right) Joan Ruddock of CND

The Bomb: a woman's place is on both sides

Lady Olga Maitland, founder of Women for Defence, thinks that the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament "has hijacked the word peace into appeasement". Joan Ruddock, chairman of CND, thinks that "the launching of Women for Defence may well be a disservice to women involved in the defence debate".

When these two women meet later this month to debate the defence of the realm on the Tyne-Tees Television programme Friday Live it should make lively viewing. "Do not," said Lady Olga Maitland, "launch a movement when your nanny goes off on holiday." Ignoring her own advice, she had just done so and was now paying the price in the shape of her youngest child, two-year-old Fergus - "my little Exocet" - who was doing his obstreperous best to wipe out the launch of Women for Defence.

Every time the telephone rang, he hurried himself at Lady Olga's long legs and began to scream loudly so that her polite conversations with journalists from Japan and America were overlaid by a blood-curdling background roar.

Oh yes, that's kind, that's very kind indeed," Lady Olga murmured to these transatlantic admirers, then quickly put down the receiver to stop a "Was-sah" from Fergus echoing around the world.

Despite ghastly domestic chaos, her papers and documents scattered over the floor of her gold and salmon pink Islington drawing room, Lady Olga, aged 38, daughter of Lord Lauderdale, wife of a barrister, mother of three and gossip columnist of the Sunday Express, was determined to continue what she had started. "I just felt that I must do it," she said. "I mustn't let the impetus slide."

She formed Women for Defence with four other women, like herself politically active fellow Tories, after paying two visits to Greenham Common. She was impressed by the Greenham women's sincerity and

courage and the way they managed to impose tidiness and order on the squelching mud. Lady Olga was dismayed by what she thought was ignorance and deliberately-fuelled fear and she was sympathetic towards the younger women's idealism - "When they're my age, they'll want a mortgage and a husband who'll help pay for it."

Most of all, she noticed what could be achieved by women working together - "when women gather together, they create a strength of their own."

She spoke of her own women's movement in straight-backed soldierly terms. "My frontliners are all terrific trouper. We'll show people abroad that we're not in moral disarray." There was some domestic imagery, too. Cuddling Fergus, who was now sucking his thumb on her lap, she described nuclear defence as necessary "so that sausages like this can grow up in the freedom they deserve. You would never leave your home with the front door open; why should you leave your country equally vulnerable?"

She emerged as if from a beauty salon

The sleekly elegant "frontliners" of Women for Defence have spoken of producing literature simple enough for a child to understand. Not surprisingly, they have been accused of patronizing attitudes, of being as remote from the lives of ordinary women as any anoraked Greenham camper. Lady Olga has also been criticized for clinging to her title and not going about her business as plain Mrs Robin Hay.

She counters crisply: "There's no point in my trying to pretend I'm other than me." Being herself is indeed a formidable undertaking. A third full-time job will be added to the present two if she achieves her ambition to be adopted as a

prospective Tory candidate. Private Eye's labelling of her as "the fragrant basket" is misleading in its suggestion of feminine frailty. "My father was an MP," she said. "I think I've got a lot of his energy and drive. My children come home to a tornado; it's always a question of Mummy's working."

A taxi arrived to take Lady Olga to an interview at the BBC Television Centre. Fergus instantly refused to leave the shelter of her arms so, while 10-year-old Alastair looked on the house, she rushed to the bathroom still carrying Fergus. Two minutes later, Fergus clinging limper-like to her pink jacket, she emerged as if from an hour-long session at a beauty salon - hair brushed into a shining, dark mass, lips brightly painted. Children in tow, she set off for the interview before coming back for more talks with foreign pressmen and then a Bow Group dinner. As she said: "It's hard for women not to be exploited because men soon catch on to the fact that we're prepared to work very, very hard."

Joan Ruddock was a surprise: the question I most wanted to ask her was where she had bought her beautiful suit. It is a black and white striped skirt and plain black jacket with toning CND badge pinned to the lapel. Ashamed of such frivolity, I asked instead how she felt about everyone's open-mouthed surprise that such a glamorous woman should be chairman of CND. She said that on the whole she felt badly about it and had considered keeping a pair of shabby jeans and a sweater handy to put on whenever a journalist was sighted. "I don't like the contrast being drawn between myself and other women in the peace movement. There are women at Greenham who would reject conventional clothes and particularly make-up, but lots of people in CND look like me."

The reason Michael Heseltine gave for refusing Joan Ruddock's

invitation to a public debate was that he thought CND has a closed mind. He might also have been aware that Joan Ruddock had already seen off one of his defence spokesmen, Winston Churchill, as well as Major General Christopher Popham, when she encountered them at the normally conservative Birmingham University debating society. Along with her dimpled smile and soft Welsh voice - she was brought up in Pontypool - Joan Ruddock, carrying whole armouries of nuclear weapons in her head, can persuasively depict a world bristling with cruise, Pershing and Trident.

She is 39 married to a reader in Biophysics at Imperial College. Unlike Lady Olga Maitland she has no children but, like her, runs two full-time jobs, organizing a Citizens Advice Bureau for four days a week and devoting every minute that's left

A peaceful pause among the teacups

to CND. To save some of these minutes, we met in the refreshment room of Reading station, discussing peace and defence while all around us teacups clinked and commuters talked of shopping and the cold weather.

She thought that being a woman had been particularly helpful in getting her elected as CND chairman. On the other hand, she recognized the dangers of exploitation. What would she do if television producers urged constant appearances in the Joan Ruddock versus Olga Maitland Show? "If there's any attempt to do that, I'll take no part in it. I'm engaged in debates all over the country, mainly with men, every week. The public will gain very little from any attempt by the media to turn defence into something associated just with women."

Penny Perrick

COMMENT

The pain in your pocket

Nine out of 10 employees face a drop in income when they are sick under the Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) scheme, which starts today.

The new scheme, which replaces national insurance sickness benefit for the first eight weeks of illness, has been delayed for a year because of opposition from employers over their compensation. Employers will now be able to claim back their total SSP payments by deducting the amount from their national insurance contributions. No similar concessions have been made for employees, however. They will be worse off primarily because the amount the state guarantees them in sick pay will be subject to both income tax and national insurance contributions for the first time.

The Government argues that it is unreasonable for people to be better off when sick, which has been the case for large numbers of workers under the sickness benefit rules. They have received full pay, less sickness benefit, and have thus paid less tax and national insurance than when at work.

Opponents of the scheme argue that people need more money when they are off sick to pay for the extra fuel bills incurred when they are at home, for higher prescription charges, and, in cases of serious illness, the cost of travelling to hospital and caring for children. There is also widespread anxiety that employers will use the new scheme to monitor sickness absence more closely and that people with poor health records or disabilities will find it more difficult to keep jobs.

The scheme will cover virtually all workers, whose earnings before becoming sick will determine which of the three flat rates of SSP their employers will be obliged to pay. Qualified workers earning between £32.50 and £48.50 a week will be entitled to £37.20 a week SSP. Those earning £48.50 but less than £65 will be entitled to the middle rate of £33.75; those earning £65 a week or more will be entitled to the standard rate of £40.25.

Present sickness benefit rates are £25 a week for a single person, £40.45 for a married couple, and 30p for each child. The 30p child addition is expected to be abolished in November for all short-term national insurance benefits, including sickness benefit which will still be paid to some workers excluded from SSP and to those whose illnesses last longer than eight weeks.

There are new rules on appeals. An employer can refuse to pay SSP to people excluded under the scheme, those who were not off work long enough, or those who notified the illness late, or if the employer has good reason to believe that the illness is not genuine. An employee can then appeal to a local insurance officer for a formal written decision, which either side can then take to a local tribunal. If the employer refuses to pay SSP despite an insurance officer's decision that he should, the employee will have to apply to the County Court for an enforcement order. That could mean considerable delays and costs before the money is actually paid. Meanwhile, the employee could face the sack.

Regulations to the scheme make clear that the employers, liability to pay SSP cannot be avoided by sacking the employee solely or mainly for that purpose. But the regulations do not say sacking someone for that purpose is illegal, and opponents of the scheme believe that it will be used in that way.

Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

TALKBACK

Allaying fear

From Dr N H Kemp, Scientific Secretary, Cancer Research Campaign, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1

Whilst welcoming the general tenor of the article by Liz Hodgkinson entitled "Cancer: tackling fear..." (Wednesday Page, March 16) I feel obliged to take issue with her statement that "even though more than £60m a year is spent on cancer research in Britain alone, we are little nearer to finding either a cause or a cure".

With regard to causes - and I think that all concerned now realize that we must think of these in the plural - we know that cigarette smoking is responsible for approximately one third of all cancer deaths in this country. This indisputable achievement of cancer research means that, in theory at least, 40,000 deaths from lung cancer alone can be prevented each year.

Cancer research has also identified quite a number of environmental causes, including ionizing radiation, sunlight and certain chemicals. Although we do not yet know the causes of some of the common cancers, for example those of the breast and the stomach and the bowel, there are plenty of leads that are being vigorously pursued. On the basis of the track record of cancer research so far there is every reason to be optimistic about the likely outcome.

In relation to the treatment of cancer, at present over 60,000 people in this country are cured annually, approximately one third of all those who develop some form of cancer each year. Skin cancer, which accounts for 10 per cent of cancers in males and females, is invariably curable. The same is true of several other cancers, particularly those that affect the young.

In these instances the prognoses have been revolutionized during the last 20 or so years, to the extent that two thirds of children whose cancers are now cured. Although the absolute numbers are relatively small, the number of years of life saved is substantial. We would not dispute that the results of treatment of a number of common cancers are disappointing but there is no *a priori* reason why the successes achieved so far for some cancers cannot in time be extended to the remainder.

Facts such as these have an important role in allaying fear.

Slim choice

From Mrs S. M. Mobray, 19 Woodford Square, London, W14

Lady Ardwick (Talkback, March 11) is right in saying that wearing tight shoes is not women's own choice; but mistaken in stating that width is rarely a problem.

It is easy to buy schoolchildren's shoes in widths up to G, so there must be a sizable market for shoes that wide. But adults' fashion shoes are not made in widths above C - four sizes narrower! What are these unfortunate children to wear when they grow up?

There are a few shops that specialize in wide shoes for pensioners whose feet have spread because of foot ailments; but a drearier selection it would be hard to find, and the sad thing is that these same ailments probably arose from wearing tight shoes because acceptable wide-fitting shoes were not available.

It is time the shoe trade realized the size (and shape) of the market.

THE TIMES DIARY

New leaf

The first publishing houses to reject the new package of terms for writers drawn up by the Society of Authors and the Writers' Guild are Jonathan Cape and Bodley Head. In both cases there is an element of poachers turning gamekeepers. Before David Machin became Bodley's managing director he was the society's secretary. Cape's chairman, Graham Greene, is also chairman of the *New Statesman*. Surely he cannot think all writers do as well from their public as his uncle in the south of France.

Tables turned

It was a scandal of the recent Bafta awards that no sooner were they presented than three of the heavy bronze prizes were stolen. One has now been returned - by a contrite BBC-TV raiding party. ITN's Michael Nicholson and the BBC's Brian Hanrahan shared the Richard Dimbleby prize for their television reports from the Falklands, but it was to Nicholson that Princess Anne handed the mask. Bafta has since agreed to give another to Hanrahan, whose assignment to Hongkong as BBC correspondent would have made a friendly sharing arrangement between the two even less likely, but so outraged was Peter Woon, the head of BBC-TV news, on the night of the ceremony that he sent a couple of BB men to match the prize from the ITN table. They have now sent back the mask they grabbed - because they realize they took it from the wrong table.

● A common sight on lapels at the Barbican's *Moscow Festival* is a badge declaring: 'I'm with the Wolfpack'.

Out of sight

Sir Lawrence Gowing, whose retrospective exhibition at the Arts Council's Serpentine Gallery is to visit Newcastle, Hull and Plymouth later this year, is anxious to trace a dozen or so pictures he sold in the 1940s and '50s which have disappeared without trace. Mostly landscapes, four are known to have been sold to military men, but army records have been searched without success. On the other hand, no sooner had the exhibition at the Serpentine opened its doors for the press view than a little old lady came in and said she was keen to see the show because "I've got one of his." To her embarrassment, when Arts Council officials pounced on her for more particulars, she could not remember what her picture was called.

● Just in case you think our misprints have no rivals, how is this from the *Country Life* review of Siegfried Sassoon's war diaries? "It was the terrific impact of the Western front that turned him from a versifier to a poet."

London love

Americans are incurably romantic. Yesterday John Bryson, award-winning photographer for *The Sunday Times*, married Nancy Guild, sometime star of *Abbey and Costello meet the Invisible Man* who also once shared a billing with Francis, the talking mule. They have been living together for years, but getting married was not the romantic bit: that was coming all the way to London to do it. Bryson, a villainous actor himself, has suffered numerous fates in various Sam Peckinpah movies, yet harbours the softest of spots for our grimy capital. He and his wife treated some friends last night to dinner at the Connaught, which they touchingly consider "the best hotel in the world." I find it all quite affecting, and hope they live happily ever after.

Black power

I must have underestimated the pulling power of Celine. In its all-black situation comedy series *Problem*, has made folk heroes of the three stars, Malcolm, Frederick, Chris Tummings and Victor Romero Evans. The Theatre Royal, Stratford East, where the trio are now appearing in *Welcome Home, Jacko*, is nightly besieged with wildly enthusiastic black teenage Tummings' shirt has been torn from his back. To accommodate the tumult when Malcolm Frederick makes his entrance on stage, the play has had to be rewritten so that it happens just before the interval curtain. And, to protect the theatre's main entrance and bar trade from mobs of autograph hunters, the management has been obliged to create a stage door. The theatre has never had one before.

● Capitalism resurgent: the former Communist Party headquarters in King Street, Covent Garden, is being converted to become a branch of the Midland Bank. It opens in the autumn.

Part Stanley football fans are playing an unwelcome busy list of fixtures in patriotic red, white and blue strip supplied by a Midlands firm. Their previous kit was stolen when the Argentines invaded but, says the club captain, Tony Chatter: "We did not mind because it was light blue and white, the Argentine national colours, so we did not particularly want it anyway."

PHS

Anthony Bevins examines the figures in Foot's 12-point plan

How will Labour get out of this pension muddle?



Michael Foot: his plan would cost £3,000m a year



Peter Shore: only £500m left for pension increases

and a married couple £2.25 a week. We shall make this good at the first opportunity." To do so would cost £500m.

But just one week later, Mr Shore made a pre-Budget economic statement in which he said: "We must start to make good now the amount by which pensioners have fallen behind the movement in other earnings". His press notice said that Labour would care for the pensioner by "making progress on the restoration of the link between pension and earnings". When pressed, Mr Shore spoke of a one-third down payment. (Cost £165m.)

He also said that he would double the Christmas bonus to £20 (cost £106m), increase the death grant to its 1949 real level (from £30 to £200 at a cost of £120m) and cancel the 2 per cent clawback.

Mr Shore then disclosed that his overall costing for "benefits and pension increases" was £2,000m in a full year. But his promised increases in benefits included the extra £2 a week on child benefit (cost £1,100m)

and the introduction of long-term supplementary benefit rates for the one million who had been out of work for more than a year (cost £400m).

Simple subtraction indicates that £500m would be left over for the pensioners.

But then Mr Brynner John, the shadow cabinet minister with responsibility for social security, and Mr Rooker issued a joint statement saying they had costed the first, full-year pledge to pensioners at £3,000m, and Mr Foot last week confirmed that figure at the launch of the campaign document.

It has been explained to *The Times*, with great patience and forbearance, that Mr Foot is leader of the party and that what he says is party gospel.

Mr Foot also confirmed last week that the total cost of Labour's overall policies, in the first year of office, would be £10,000m.

Unfortunately, that is also Mr Shore's figure, inclusive of his watered-down commitment to the

pensioners. Mr Foot, therefore, either intends to increase Mr Shore's budget or plans to cut back on the proposals to increase public spending and restrain industrial costs.

Assuming that Mr Foot defends the jewel, Mr Fowler has done a public service in providing official figures which indicate the areas of Labour economy.

It would appear that Government and Opposition are agreed on certain elements of Mr Foot's 12-point plan. Both sides agree that it would cost £500m to uprate pensions by £1.45 for single, £2.25 for married pensioners to make good the lost earnings link.

It is also agreed that it would cost £115m to restore the future link between pensions and earnings, for every percentage point earnings rise above prices, £106m for a £20 Christmas bonus, £80m to £90m to reduce women's age allowance to 60; £120m for a £200 death grant for 60; and £100m to introduce a nationwide, off-peak, concessionary half-fares scheme for pensioners.

Mr Fowler has also estimated that it would cost another £500m to pay existing supplementary benefit extra heating additions of £1.90 per week to all pensioners to match the commitment "to ensure that no pensioner has to go short of the heating they need".

That would leave £1,500m for Labour's four remaining pledges: to improve the position of today's pensioners who will not benefit from the introduction of the earnings-related pension scheme; to "begin the progressive reduction of men's retirement age to 60"; to give more adequate protection to occupational pensions from the effects of inflation; and to reform "the harsh supplementary benefit rules introduced by the Tories".

It would cost an estimated £400m to reduce men's retirement age by one year; the basic extent of Labour's commitment over the lifetime of the Parliament.

There remains then, one final twelfth point in Mr Foot's plan: "We shall give a television licence to pensioners free of charge." That would cost £250m. But the commitment has now been clarified in the body of Labour's campaign document, which states: "We shall phase out the television licence for pensioners, during the lifetime of the Labour Government." There is, after all, a difference between a jewel and a 12-point plan.

James Curran

Block votes behind the banners

At first sight, it seems totally improbable that a future Labour government would ever unilaterally abandon Britain's nuclear defence in the face of the combined opposition of the press, Whitehall, the armed forces, our NATO allies, the majority of the British people and a formidable section of Labour's leadership.

This scepticism is reinforced by a careful reading of Labour's campaign document. Although it states twice that "a non-nuclear defence policy" will be implemented in "the lifetime of the next Parliament", it also includes a number of escape hatches through which this apparently unqualified commitment could disappear.

"We are against moves", it declares, "that would disrupt our existing alliances". Furthermore, nuclear disarmament measures "cannot be done at once, and the way we do it must be designed to assist in the task to which we are also committed - securing nuclear disarmament agreements with other countries".

The document is, in any case, merely a draft election manifesto. Already some influential right-wing Labour MPs, such as Austin Mitchell, are arguing that Labour's commitment to unilateralism should be further qualified in the final manifesto presented to the country.

There are, however, good reasons for thinking that Labour probably will not back down from its commitment to unilateral nuclear disarmament either in opposition or in government. CND has organized a highly effective lobby among trade unionists that has gone largely unnoticed by the mass media.

It was union votes that largely counted for the adoption of the resolution calling for the closure of all nuclear bases in Britain by the Labour Party conference in 1972, and its inclusion in Labour's programme in 1982. Given CND's solid trade union base, the Labour Party will be officially committed to disarmament for the foreseeable future.

This trade union support for unilateralism extends beyond the left-wing unions to include such bastions of the Labour right as the steelworkers (ISTC) and the Post Office engineers (POEU). This means that there is a built-in unilateralist majority on Labour's national executive committee, whether it is controlled by the left or the right. It was this majority which successfully pushed for Labour's unilateralist commitment to be featured prominently in the campaign manifesto.

The constituency Labour parties are also strongly committed to unilateralism. This has been reflected in their choice of new parliamentary candidates in safe and marginal seats: the great majority are CND supporters. If Labour wins sufficient seats to form a government, the majority of the parliamentary party will be unilateralist.

Michael Foot, Labour's first unilateralist leader, would thus have the committed support of every section of the labour movement.

The critical question is whether the party can carry public opinion with it. At present, the opinion polls indicate considerable support for cancelling Trident and opposing the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain, but not for the unilateral abandonment of Britain's nuclear defence.

There is, however, growing

disquiet about the way the western alliance has appeared to be pursuing a policy of aggressive confrontation with the Soviet Union. First, the US Government failed to ratify the Salt II treaty signed by Presidents Carter and Brezhnev. Then it opposed non-aligned initiatives at the United Nations to freeze all nuclear arms development. And it has effectively blocked serious negotiations by intrinsically sticking to the so-called zero option (President Reagan's revised offer last week is merely the same thing dressed up in new clothes), which is manifestly unrealistic and one-sided.

The planned installation of cruise missiles will probably provoke an accelerated build-up of Soviet SS-20s. This will lead to an increasingly dangerous situation in which the nuclear arms race will be spiralling upwards in an atmosphere of mutual fear and distrust. In this context, the rationale for Labour's non-nuclear defence policy - to intervene in a way that scales down the nuclear arms race - may well seem more compelling, particularly if the Russians demonstrate a willingness to reduce their SS-20s in return for the phasing out of Britain's nuclear arsenal.

How public opinion will respond to an intensification of the cold war is difficult to predict. But the 14-mile human chain that linked Greenham to Burghfield on Friday was a remarkable contrast to the CND "mass" rally of only four years ago opposite the gates of the Aldermaston atomic weapons research establishment that merely mustered 100 demonstrators. The emergence of a new consensus underwriting a significant shift in government defence policy can no longer be ruled out.

The author is Editor of *New Socialist*.

Peter Hennessy

In case of doomsday, the Otto option

One of the comforting things about burying oneself in the files of the Public Record Office and seeing a Rolls-Royce civil service car work its way through the detailed contingency planning that used to go on to keep Britain through a variety of disasters. The late 1940s Treasury, for example, would turn to the late Sir Richard "Otto" Clarke whenever it needed a quick doomsday exercise.

Sir Richard had a marvellous head for figures plus the clarity and literary rapidity of a former financial journalist of the highest calibre. His most dramatic production was completed at high speed during the sterling crises of July to August 1947. He was asked to work out what to do if Marshall Aid failed to materialize, or trickled in late or in inadequate amounts due to congressional opposition in Washington.

It would be of prime importance, Clarke wrote, to give people something to look forward to, and to show that a plan existed for getting us through with backs to the wall. For this reason it would be necessary to present a plan for recovery by our own efforts by 1950.

The plan involved changing school terms to enable children to gather in the harvest, the direction of labour to agriculture and a famine food programme. To work, it would need a national mobilization comparable with that of 1940, the year of Dunkirk. Marshall Aid came on stream generously and swiftly. Otto's "hush-hush" plan, as it was known to the tiny handful privy to its contents, was shelved, to become a collector's item in 1978 when it was declassified.

In 1948 the Treasury doomwatchers were at it again. Sir Ernest Rowe-Dutton prepared a "Sterling War Book" in case the pound had to be devalued. It was devalued in 1949 and an up-dated version of Rowe-Dutton laid out who should be told - the King, the Americans, the Dominions, the Colonies - and when, and in what order. Clarke was in action once more. He rattled off a paper entitled "If the talks fail" outlining what would happen if the United States administration declined to help Whitehall manage the transition to a lower exchange rate.

In view of the Clarke and Rowe-Dutton files, it comes as a bit of a shock to discover that the 1980s Treasury does not plan in that fashion any more. Sir Douglas Wass joined the Treasury in December 1946 as an assistant principal. He left last week as its Permanent Secretary.

"It is different now," he said. "The armory of weapons you have got to deal with financial and economic crises, the reserves you have got, are much greater than you

had then. A lot of instruments were ruled out. Interest rates were not used until 1951 to defend against an attack on sterling."

"We have far fewer inhibitions about drastic fiscal policy to defend sterling. The willingness to sacrifice full employment policy is a help here. Then there were limits to what Cabinets would allow on fiscal policy because of their commitment to full employment. Now we have substantial reserves and drawing facilities at the International Monetary Fund."

"We now know that you can mobilize credit at short notice if you have a policy of retrenchment and reform. Otto Clarke had none of the flexibility we have. Floating the pound is another device. You can let the exchange rate take the strain."

Treasury officials do undertake what Sir Douglas calls "scenario planning" - what would happen if the supply of Saudi Arabian oil dried up, the effects of a major banking collapse because nations defaulting. The Treasury has not looked at the "alternative strategy" of import controls and siege economy since Mr James Callaghan authorized it to study the ideas of Mr Tony Benn in 1976-77. And (this the Treasury emphasizes with a vengeance) there is no contingency plan for withdrawal from the European Community.

Mr Peter Middleton, who succeeded Sir Douglas yesterday as Permanent Secretary, says Otto Clarke's efforts were necessary because in the late 1940s Britain was moving from a highly controlled economy to a less controlled one, and it was the era of fixed exchange rates. For today's currency slides "you have two options: to let it happen or to step in by borrowing money, putting up interest rates or raising taxes. You don't need a great war book to do that."

The kind of contingency planning the Middleton Treasury will undertake is more in the area of future policy choices than disasters. He mentions the possibility of studies of the tax and benefits system, future developments in the City and the financial institutions, such as investor protection and self-regulation, and future developments in the building societies.

"Though I do believe in being prepared for contingencies, I do not believe in being overprepared," says Mr Middleton. Should the British economy ever really hit the rocks, he can always exhort Otto Clarke's "famine food programme" and put the school children to work in the fields. He will find it at the Public Record Office in Kew in a file labelled T 229/136 "Marshall Proposals. Alternative action in the event of breakdown."



Polish punks: drugs, drink and the black market provide an escape for thousands of young people whose only expectation is a constant call for further sacrifice

Battle for a drop-out generation

Warsaw Backstage at Warsaw's seedy Remont Club a teenage gargoyle uses a toothbrush to apply green colouring to his hair while crooning the lyrics of *Odnova* (Renewal), a song that parodies the longstanding socialist catchphrase for reform: "Everything is different, everything is new, everything has changed - only the faces are the same." Later he and the rest of the band leave the dressing room to belt out the song, so camouflaged by the white noise of the instruments that it is incomprehensible to the censor.

Punk and punksters are alive and well on the Warsaw margin. So are teenage alcoholics and young drug addicts - narcotics specialists say there are between 120,000 and 200,000 addicts in Poland, most of them hooked on heroin or home brewed morphine drinks. The alcoholic figures are even more frightening (almost a million according to some semi-official estimates).

More and more young people are being drawn into the black market economy, working as illegal money-changers, selling and buying scarce goods. A friend of a friend began money-changing at the age of 15, is now at the age of 19 selling cars on the black market and will at the current rate of progress (his colleagues' joke) have surpassed Richard Nixon by the age of 23.

These and other surface images give the impression that Poland is becoming decadent along the lines of urban western societies. This is misleading - the addicts and the alcoholics are merely symptoms of a generation that has staged a tactical withdrawal from social life. They work, but without enthusiasm, for their political imagination, once fired by Solidarity, has been put back in deep-freeze.

To drag Polish youth out of this alienated trough is the goal of both

Roger Boyes reports on the campaigns by church and state for the minds of Polish youth, who look for a better life after Solidarity

the Catholic Church and the Communist Party who, as in a renaissance tableau, are grappling for influence over the minds of the young people. Neither the church nor the party has been successful but the priests have the edge. The church begins early, has long pedagogic experience and knows how the romantic history of Poland can be used to stoke interest in the Christian faith.

Father Leon Kantoriski, a regional organizer of the Oasis Christian youth movement, knows that the task is not without dangers. Every year thousands of Polish school-children, from the age of 10, are taken to mountain retreats where they are taught the Bible by priests and told to distinguish "truth from falsehood". The Oasis movement - which now claims hundreds of thousands of members - has come under fire from the government press for brainwashing children into anti-socialism.

Father Kantoriski's reply: "Of course, they would say that. The truth is anti-socialist. That is the fact of the matter."

Not surprisingly, Father Kantoriski has had a few brushes with the authorities. But the government, above all the Communist Party, is trying to fight back, to pull Polish youth back on to the socialist path. Exchange schemes with East Germany and Czechoslovakia have been expanded. The education ministry has decreed that university and college students will devote 300 hours a year to the ideological study of politics and economics, and, in an extraordinary sign of party concern,

a 28-year-old party activist, Waldemar Swirgon, has been promoted to the powerful secretariat of the party to look after youth affairs.

The party has a number of problems. First it is the unchangeable party of government and must therefore be held responsible for everything that makes life miserable for young people - the 15-year wait for a flat for young married couples, the limited travel possibilities, the expense of food, the scarcity of cars, the poor quality of baby food.

Secondly, Solidarity clearly identified party corruption as its main target. The villas and perks of the party leadership were contrasted with the lifestyle of the ordinary 25-year-old. Finally, the church under martial law has continually laid claim to being the true representative of the nation, its voice at a time when no other form of political opposition is practical.

Solidarity and its era was, in part, a youth revolution, a rejection of parental compromise and the middle-aged acceptance of unquestioned facts of life. Solidarity thus also rejected the idea of oligarchies - indeed this probably helped to destroy the union because it made for chaotic decision-making, and for chaotic decision-making, as great a threat, in the long term, to the influence of the church leadership as to the party.

teachings when it comes to divorce and abortion.

The battle for this uncommitted generation is not the usual shadow warfare associated with party struggle or the self-assertion of the church. It really matters. More than 50 per cent of the Polish population is under the age of 30; it is demographically one of Europe's youngest nations. The campaign to mobilize youth is thus essential to any government that lays claim to legitimacy, any church that claims to have the interests of its flock at heart.

Both the Communist Party and the Catholic Church are preaching in the vocabulary of sacrifice. General Jaruzelski calls for economic sacrifice, for young people to be patient, to work hard ideologically and physically to restore and rebuild Poland. The church, or at least parish priests like Father Kantoriski, preach that sacrifice is central to Christianity.

But the church understanding of sacrifice is perhaps more realistic. It accepts that young people are angry, that they are still bitter that the Jaruzelski generation has taken away Solidarity, the product of their generation, and offered them little in return. The church is thus counselling young people to be patient, to contain their discontent.

The government wants more than this: it wants active engagement and is, one suspects, doomed to disappointment. Polish youth will stay on the fence for some time to come. Perhaps the papal visit in June will strengthen church influence on this generation or perhaps it will stir again a sense of vague political and generational discontent, as did the Pope's 1979 tour. That tour sowed the seeds of Solidarity. What energy will be released by the next papal visit? Little wonder that there is nervousness in the government.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

QUALITY CARDIGANS

When the Home Office drafted the Bill which became the Television Act, 1954, its officials could not in their wildest flights of fancy have imagined the bizarre spectacle of the TV-am story almost 30 years later. In those days it would have been inconceivable that a former Ambassador to Washington would have teamed up with showbusiness celebrities to change the early morning habits of the nation. A combination of Sir Oliver Franks, as he then was, and Mr. Hughie Green would have been material for an Ealing Comedy rather than a serious broadcasting and commercial enterprise.

There is a more serious aspect to the statutes governing independent television in the context of the Independent Broadcasting Authority acting as a watchdog while Mr. Jonathan Aitken, MP, tries to pick up the pieces left by Mr. Peter Jay and Mr. David Frost. The Television and Sound Broadcasting Acts grant the IBA enormous powers as a disburser of franchises. They provide very little guidance as to what can be done if an enfranchised operation fails but does not transgress the statutory requirements of political impartiality, taste or decency.

The IBA clearly does not consider closure and rebirth under another franchise to be an option. Nor should it. To do so would be premature. Other companies, London Weekend Television in the early 1970s comes to mind, recovered after a very shaky start, with franchise renewal from the IBA the central certificate of lasting faith. Equally, the authority did not ratify any emergency measures knocked into shape by Mr. Franks in the hope that headline-catching emergency measures at TV-am will melt away.

Under section 3 (1) of the Act, its "general provisions" clause, the authority has a duty to satisfy itself that "programmes maintain a proper balance in their content and a high general

standard of quality". That represents a charter for investigation. The authority must monitor developments at Camden Lock. Like a constitutional monarch, it can advise and warn. Above all, the good and great of Brompton Road must insist that there can be no slide into sugar-coated, substance-free, audience-building breakfast fare.

The difficulty here is that the early weeks of "Jaybreak", as the station was dubbed, ascended no real heights from which there can be a subsequent fall. If ever there was a gap between pretension and performance it was the abyss between the stated aims of the TV-am consortium's bid and what it delivered. The story makes sad reading. Granting TV-am the franchise in December 1980, Lady Plowden, then chairman of the IBA (since succeeded by Lord Thomson of Monifieth) said that of all the bidders TV-am offered the highest promise, despite the proven strength of its nearest rival, Independent Television News. At every opportunity Mr. Jay preached his "mission to explain" like a John the Baptist of the airwaves. From the start, there was a paradox in that in spite of his five, glittering flagships, there was insufficient emphasis on hard news and current affairs broadcasting which might have turned Mr. Jay's word into flesh. TV-am's news coverage has been poor rather than pathfinding. Mr. Jay, though an accomplished writer, journalist himself, lacked the editor-manager skills to pick the right evangelists to carry out his mission.

For other causes of its crisis TV-am is not responsible. The IBA by prohibiting a faster start, allowed the BBC to attack the market with *Breakfast Time* two weeks before Camden Lock began transmitting. In the United States, NBC's *Today* had some 20 years to establish itself before a serious challenge was mounted. Why the BBC decided to devote 15m to its alternative is another matter. It could be interpreted as evidence of a lack

of clear purpose and corporate identity in Broadcasting House, in that it was wishing to demonstrate omniscience rather than sticking to its particular last. The BBC already had a secure place as breakfast time market leader with its highly successful and serious *Today* programme on Radio 4. The haste which characterised its move into breakfast television suggested an over-zealous regard for thumping the competition, and a rather cavalier attitude towards its paymasters, the licence-holders. The BBC was launching a pre-emptive strike, and the level at which it pitched its programme made it hard for TV-am to compete successfully for viewers and to honour its prospects.

TV-am also misread the market. It was not to know that the consumers of breakfast broadcasting preferred cardigan, comfortable middle-age to self-regarding, tinselled celebrities, though the wit and sharpness of Mr. Brian Redhead and Mr. John Timpson on *Today* showed that the wearing of pullovers is not a stigma of stodginess.

Mr. Aitken may surprise us all. He is a more serious man than his Camden Lock image would suggest. In some of his Parliamentary campaigns, most notably his attempts to reform the Official Secrets Act, he has been both well-briefed and brave in going against the grain of his own party. In his day he was a good television journalist, part of the stable groomed by Mr. Donald Baverstock. He could well show that quality is not incompatible with a steady following. The guidance he gives to his new appointees and old presenters in the next few weeks before resuming his political career will be crucial. Lord Thomson and the IBA should look to their statutes, scrutinise his every move and shove him in the direction of quality and virtue. With luck, the past few weeks at Camden Lock will turn out to have been a hiccup rather than a death rattle.

WHITE LIES: BLACK LIES

It is fashionable belief in the West that the problems of survival - the search for freedom from hunger - and the demands for the "human" freedoms of the West, such as those afforded by independent judiciary and a free press, not to mention the rights of individuals to dissent, are luxuries - it may be said - which can actually retard development by arousing passions and anti-developmental authority should instead prevail.

Third World-dominated UNESCO calls for the destruction of the alleged Western press over the flow of information. The Western press is followed by focusing on the sensational or the trivial. There is just enough merit in these Third World charges to put in mind the Western press's role in pondering most carefully before castigating sorry despotic governments in Africa, Asia and Latin America, where the language of wealth and the language of ethnic rivalries often leave scant room for the pluralistic tolerance taken for granted in the West. But there the argument ends. The journalist's first job is to seek the truth, not to ponder to governments. The usual, overwhelming reason why many governments dislike the Western press is that they respect, indeed they know, no tradition of press freedom at home or abroad. Friends praise you. Those who record unpleasant truths must be enemies. The domestic press in most of Africa is as muzzle as the Western press is feared. It is desirable as an instrument of government, not as a guarantor of liberty.

The argument in favour of the

one-party system, which usually spells the end of the press, is obvious. Multi-party freedoms in young, artificially created countries have often deteriorated into tribalist mudslinging or violence. There are degrees of freedom. Sometimes a modicum of popular participation in parochial matters is allowed, within a framework decreed from above; sometimes a variety of candidates is permitted within the single-party election. But the one-party model rarely offers a satisfactory way of ensuring constructive debate about fundamentals.

There is not always a clear distinction between a free press and an unfree one. In the wake of last year's abortive coup in Kenya, for instance, the government has leaned heavily against the press and academic, but inhibited much reporting, but compared with others in Africa, Kenya remains a beacon of light. It is more open than closed. The admirable independent *Weekly Review*, perhaps watching its step more nervously, is still one of the frankest journals of current affairs in Africa. Others, such as Senegal, deserve mention. Africa's giant, Nigeria, enjoys a host of wildly uninhibited, combative organs, nearly all tied to a political interest. The variety and vivacity are healthy, though objectivity, that impossibly elusive goal which the most rigorous journalist can merely seek to attain, is notably lacking. The South African press, it may be added, has been subjected to growing harassment and a proliferation of laws designed to suppress information; the interests of "state security" are

increasingly interpreted as synonymous with those of government. All the same, it is an awkward truth that the South African press is still freer than almost anywhere else in Africa.

Whatever the variations in degree of freedom, the key point is that the exposure of wrongdoing and the discussion of policy, even within tighter limits than would be acceptable in the West, are essential to all societies; progress, however defined, flows from self-examination. Even in Africa, there is often a correlation between justice, general efficiency and press freedom.

In Zimbabwe, all three are threatened. The same journalists who antagonised Mr. Smith are angering Mr. Mugabe, and getting shorter shrift. The home press, cravenly self-censored except for a brave little Catholic magazine, *Moto*, which had been closed down by Mr. Smith, tells little of the news from Matabeleland, but calls foreign journalists liars. Mr. Mugabe publicly implies that Western reporters are merely obeying their inexplicably malevolent "sponsors". There is added piquancy to such accusations because some black Zimbabwean journalists "sponsored" in the past by Western news organs hostile to Mr. Smith are now high in government and shamelessly presiding over a campaign to portray bad news as Western invention and honest journalists as "enemies of the people". The irony is that black Zimbabweans as well as white are already looking to the foreign media for the real news. At home, rumour and exaggeration multiply. Respect for the word of government diminishes. It is ugly. It is foolish. It is self-defeating.

A public for poetry

From Miss Margherita Laski
Sir Philip Howard is - unusually - wrong when he says (feature, March 29) that the general public today is not paying much attention to a recent English poetry composed of "small cults and exhibitionist sects" - certainly not all poetry being written today is of the same kind, but to more of it than for a long time the general public is paying a great deal of attention.

The various words of many modern poets of substantial stature have over the past decade become increasingly acceptable to a growing public. In fact, it might soon be wise to worry whether this ready acceptance might not imply some significant movement forward.

I know of one large-circulation magazine of high quality which is currently searching the small magazines for good modern poets of all "cults" for readers who may be coming to poetry as conventional rather than progressive. Moreover, the growing audiences want to hear poetry as well as to read it.

Not in the "mass audiences of all classes" that Mr. Howard claims for Dickens in *Satanstoe* in Greece, but in many small and various groups (which perhaps indicates greater discrimination) English people of all classes and ages are going to readings concerned with poetry; to readings, whether of the more classic kinds arranged by the National Poetry Secretariat as well as privately, or of the new and developing form of the art represented by the many poets who perform rather than read and who recently filled the Young Vic for this year's Poetry Openings, through workshops and classes of many kinds, some arranged by adult education colleges, some by the Arvon Foundation, some by such different

and differing groups as those of the Worker Writers' Federation, or a multitude of small private societies, where people may read their own probably poor verse in order to come, through criticism, to improved skill in writing, and, for most people and more importantly, to richer appreciations.

Only in the almost total uninterest in our older poetry, in what is now generally called the heritage, do I see cause for dismay. Is this the result of over a generation, now, of education in which English literature studies in most English schools and universities have started with Hardy and hardly a backward glance, save to Blake for his social criticism and visions and to set-book Shakespeare?

Yours faithfully,
MARGHERITA LASKI
(Chairman,
Arts Council's Advisory Panel on Literature),
Coppo di Monte,
Widnall Hill, NW3.
March 26.

Cautious view of lead's effects

From Miss Marjorie Smith and others

Sir, An investigation we have recently completed, but which is not so far published, has been the subject of some comment both in the press and on television. We are writing to clarify our views on its implications for the "lead in petrol" debate.

The research was carried out over a period of more than three years, to assess the effects, if any, of lead on children, taking social factors into account to a greater degree than had previously been possible.

The results of the research, which were announced at a meeting of the Association for Child Psychology and Psychiatry in London in January, showed that social factors were indeed an important element in the equation between lead and intelligence. Once the effect of social factors is removed from the equation, differences in performance between children with higher and lower lead levels were substantially reduced to a level that was not significant statistically.

We concluded that, for children of similar age and in environments similar to the one studied, it was uncertain whether measurable improvements in intelligence, educational attainment or behaviour would result from further efforts to remove sources of lead.

It is important that anyone participating in the lead debate

should distinguish between the issues relating to the effects of lead on children and the related but separate issue of the desirability of removing lead from petrol.

In relation to the former issue our research provides no definite evidence that lead at present urban levels is affecting children's development. The decision to remove lead from petrol may be judged prudent on grounds of doubt or political expediency, but this will have to be decided on many different grounds and our study can provide only one indication of uncertain significance.

It may well be that the results of our study are in line with those of other workers who have claimed that their findings suggest lead does have a direct negative effect on intellectual development. Our own view is that our findings do not lend support to this interpretation, but that it is equally possible that social factors explain the similarity between the findings of the various studies.

Yours faithfully,
MARJORIE SMITH,
PHILIP GRAHAM,
RICHARD LANDDOWN,
(Institute of Child Health,
University of London),
BARBARA CLAYTON,
TREVOR DELVES,
(University of Southampton),
(Institute of Child Health,
The University of London,
30 Guilford Street, WC1,
March 25.

Forgotten island?

From Mr. Stedson George

Sir, Michael Croft's article of March 19, "Wind of change in Britain's forgotten Falklands", is biased and was sullied by the insulting remarks attributed to M. Martineau.

No mention was made that our only ship, the *St. Helena*, was requisitioned for the Falklands war, and is still in service there, and that the *Saints* crew volunteered to go with her, when the conflict was at its worst.

The rights and privileges granted under the 1876 Charter have been eroded by successive Acts of Parliament to the extent that our present passports are virtually meaningless. In any case emigration

to Britain is no longer permitted.

In addition to economic aid we want full British citizenship. As Mr. Croft says, we have a completely British way of life here, so prospective emigrants would have no difficulty fitting into British society, unlike the ethnic minorities from the independent territories who emigrate to Britain.

There would be no danger of a mass exodus to Britain; most of us love our island paradise in spite of its failings; but those who settled in Britain would at least contribute to future grants-in-aid.

Yours etc.,
STEDSON GEORGE,
St. Helena,
South Atlantic.
March 31.

Role of civil defence

From Mr. John Weatherill

Sir, Supporters of civil defence seem consistently confused about its opponents' arguments. It is not simply that civil defence would necessarily be worthless at all levels of nuclear exchange in war, and certainly not at any conventional level in a prospectively major war.

The substantive argument is that civil defence - seriously implemented - automatically would fill the classic preparatory role at this crucial time. War would thus be seen to be that much more imminent, and the people that much more conditioned to acceptance of the near-inevitable (in current popular parlance, the nuclear threshold would be lowered). Security would thus be reduced, the trend towards war having been strengthened and the people's will - or ability - to resist the trend proportionately weakened.

The common counter to this argument, that civil defence serves only to reinforce deterrent strategy, needs to be viewed in the context of that strategy as a whole. The upward spiral of arms and the increasing research at vast cost have long been justified as part of it, as has been our

declared will to use nuclear forces in need (first use). Although the strategy has apparently worked there is growing scepticism about its continuing credibility and of the official will to come to terms with this problem.

The scepticism is manifest in the vastly expanding anti-war movements in America and Europe. movements which embrace the legal and medical professions, the churches, even sections of the Conservative Party and members of the military establishment, as well as CND and the Greenham Common women.

But even more significant, the anti-war movements also embrace the physics community, the very people responsible for unleashing the power of which the world now stands in fear. The responsibility has thus also fallen on that community to educate the people and alert them to the full and irrevocable consequences of even a supposedly limited nuclear war, as well as to the reality of that abstraction, "trend towards war".

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WEATHERILL,
Wyle Head,
Kilminster,
Warminster, Wiltshire.

Cable TV standards

From Mr. Barry Askew

Sir, The cablevision industry, in front of which Mr. Richard Hoggart is so vigorously waving his red flag (feature, March 29), is unacceptable to those of us actually applying for franchises. Our consortium, for example, is entirely British and composed of companies which are household names in Britain and of leading local people. We quite voluntarily accept the need for high standards - moral and professional - in our programmes and we are already planning a very large local and community element in them.

Those of us who have worked in British television for two decades are particularly anxious that its high standards should apply to this aspect of our programming. We shall certainly buy as much good British material as is available, but for the foreseeable future this will fall short of our programme requirements and is likely to be more costly than marginal cost purchases from abroad.

Mr. Hoggart neglects one vital and distinctive ingredient of cable which makes it a more effective and more responsive medium for social and individual improvement than broadcasting - the inter-active channels. It is these, rather than wall-to-wall *Dallas* that will become the dominant feature of cable in due course.

But all these willingly accepted commitments severely restrict the return on capital on our investment, as does our commitment to the more sophisticated technology available. Cable franchises are certainly not licences to print money and only a long franchise will enable us to make a modest and reasonable return.

Limits such as Mr. Hoggart proposes would kill the private cable industry very quickly - which may be his intention, of course. What we understand to be the Government's intention to link franchise length to technological sophistication strikes us as very reasonable, given that the time span envisaged is at least from 10 to 20 years.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY ASKEW,
Managing Director,
Cable North West Ltd.,
c/o 11/12 Theatre Street,
Preston,
Lancashire,
March 30.

Building reliability

From Mr. G. Graham

Sir, Charles McKean (Spectrum, March 28) did not mention that the record for reliability in private-sector house building is much better than in other parts of the construction industry. Independent surveys confirm that major structural defects are down 50 per cent from comparable levels in 1974.

This is because of the National House-Building Council's improved minimum requirements, its "Pride in the Job" campaign and other factors.

I write only because it is discouraging for an industry which has done much to improve its standards not to have its efforts recognised.

Yours faithfully,
G. GRAHAM,
London Director,
National House-Building Council,
58 Portland Place, W1.

Poland and the West

From Mr. S. Janicki

Sir, Mr. Hatt (March 21) listed for us the territories which became victims of Soviet invasions and subsequent occupation. The Soviet task was made easier by a powerful ally of theirs during the second world war.

Although the United States attempts nowadays to lead a crusade against the Soviet Union, it was President Roosevelt who actually created the conditions favourable for Soviet communism which was able to expand and grow to its present strength on the basis of United States support and material assistance during the last war. To pacify Stalin the Americans allowed the Soviet Union to invade and occupy the territories of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, some of the German territories now called "East Germany" and, of course, Poland whose people were betrayed in every sense of the word.

It was because of the German invasion of Poland that the second world war began. Great Britain, France and Poland had a pact of mutual assistance. In case of invasion by any European power against any of the three signatories the other two had an obligation to commence hostilities against the aggressor and reinstate the political and physical status quo which existed before the invasion.

Pressure in favour of refugees

From Sir Philip Goodhart, MP for Bromley, Beckenham (Conservative)

Sir, My friend, Lord Elton, put the Government's side of the case for the deportation of Mr. Stancu Papusoiu as clearly as possible in the House of Lords on March 29 when he said:

To put it at its plainest, if we waived our immigration rules for everyone who felt that he would be better off here than he would at home, we would very rapidly find ourselves hosts to enormous numbers of people from all over the globe. That would be folly, and nobody is suggesting it. What would be equally impracticable - and highly invidious as it could be to indulge in that sort of hospitality but to reserve it to people who lived in only one part of the world. ... To regard every person who comes here from an East European country as a political refugee would be a serious matter which would affect all our immigration policy.

But, as you said in your leading article (March 19): "Many East Europeans are moved by a mixture of motive to emigrate from their gloomy countries, where food and consumer goods are often as scarce as civil liberty." This problem is not, of course, confined to Eastern Europe. In recent years, British troops under successive governments have spent much time pushing illegal immigrants back into Communist China from Hongkong.

Non-Communist regimes can also, of course, provide a diet of poverty and repression for their unfortunate citizens. I can understand only too easily the dread that a number of Iranians living in my constituency have felt about the fate that awaits them if they are forced to return to their own country, so long as it is ruled by the erratic and bloodthirsty Khomeini regime. In recent weeks, two visitors from Commonwealth countries have asked to stay in my constituency because of the oppressive conduct of their own governments.

Most West European nations with humane laws are faced with similar problems and there is a danger that any government which is notably relaxed in its interpretation of the international rules will attract quasi-refugees from all over western Europe.

In 1979, when tens of thousands of South Vietnamese were fleeing from the usual combination of poverty and repression, I tried to persuade the Brazilian Government

to accept a substantial number of these Boat People. Brazil is one of the few countries in the world that has empty land and an appropriate climate. The Brazilian Government did not respond.

Brazil is now heavily in debt to the Western banking system and requires regular transfusions of very large sums of Western money to survive financially. Many other South American countries are in a similar position. A quiet word behind the scenes during the regular rounds of financial negotiations might produce an alternative haven for many of the unfortunate people who escape to the West but who do not really qualify for political asylum.

After World War II a number of South American countries found that they had given shelter to many men who were subsequently accused of war crimes. It would be appropriate if some of the South American countries could now be persuaded to open their doors to the victims of oppression.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOODHART,
House of Commons,
March 31.

From Mr. Jeremy McBride

Sir, In justifying the expulsion of Mr. Papusoiu, any importance attached to his illegal entry into this country is misplaced. Article 31 of the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees makes it abundantly clear that penalties should not be imposed on refugees "on account of their illegal entry or presence... provided they present themselves without delay to the authorities and show good cause for their illegal entry or presence".

The non-availability of travel documents could well be "good cause" for an illegal entry and although rule 73 of the Immigration Rules (which deals with the admission of refugees) is drafted in a way that assumes legal entry by someone seeking refugee status, this is no excuse for a breach of this country's international obligations.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY MCBRIDE,
Lecturer in Law,
The University of Birmingham,
Faculty of Law,
Birmingham,
March 31.

Nostell Priory painting

From Lady Mark Fitzalan Howard

Sir, Had Mr. Jack Leslau (Spectrum, March 25) spent less time in the realms of fantasy, and more time studying other sixteenth century paintings, he might not have proffered his thesis on the covert rebus in the Nostell Priory "Hobbein" with such enthusiasm.

He deduces that Elizabeth Dauncy was bearing an illegitimate child because she is portrayed with only one glove (*elle n'a que le p'ere*). In fact, however, the wearing or carrying of one glove by either sex was a conspicuous mark of rank and dignity, as numerous portraits of the Tudor period illustrate, including several of Henry VIII and the symbolic "Ditchley" painting of Elizabeth I by Marcus Gheeraerts.

The carpet on the sideboard was not a cover-up as he suggests. Carpets, whether knotted-pile ones of Turkish origin, or English embroidered ones, were rarely seen on floors, even in the most affluent houses; their usual place was on tables or the tops of cupboards, hence their long, narrow shapes. The famous painting in the National Portrait Gallery of the Somerset House conference of 1604 shows the way such table carpets were used.

Towards the middle of the sixteenth century gardens, no longer confined behind monastic walls, became more prevalent. Although botany was of growing interest as new species began reaching Europe from the Middle East, flowers which we take for granted today were rare novelties in Tudor times, and consequently not necessarily represented accurately in paintings. (For example in the Rowland Lockey picture of Sir Thomas More and his descendants, in the National Portrait Gallery, the artist has painted the Madonna lilies with five petals instead of six.) There is therefore no covert rebus to be found in the purple flag iris or peonies, as Mr. Leslau claims; nor indeed is there any symbolic significance in the other aspects of the Nostell Priory painting to which he draws attention.

Most scholars anyway agree that the subject of Mr. Leslau's imaginative thesis is not the original picture by Hans Holbein the Younger, but a later copy, based on Holbein's pen and ink drawing of 1527, now in the Bodleian Museum.

Yours etc.,
JACYNTH FITZALAN
HOWARD,
13 Campden Hill Square, W.8.
March 26.

Death of Joan

From Mrs. Fabienne Smith

Sir, Your report on Joan of Arc in today's *Times* (March 29) does not mention that Professor de Sermouse is a descendant of the French knight, Robert de Aramis. Joan is supposed to have married. The similarity in surnames is obvious. I am not saying what he suggests cannot be true. I hope more of the details are published for us all to examine.

Professor de Sermouse has been developing this theory a lot longer than six years. An account of it, with a photograph showing a striking likeness between Robert and the Professor, appeared in *The Sunday Times* for November 26, 1982.

Yours sincerely,
FABIENNE SMITH,
55 Manor Place,
Edinburgh.

Purpose of medicine

From Mr. Rory Coonan

Sir, I wonder whether your columnist, Roger Scruton (March 20), having seen today's photograph of an apparently ill and contented Mr. Keith Castle, still alive and looking three years after receiving a new heart, then had the heart to turn the page and re-read his own words: "How easy it proves to persuade a doctor that the shrine of the dead body should be violated for the sake of a few months of uncertain persistence in the living."

Mr. Castle has cheated death, and good luck to him as long as it lasts, but to suggest that such surgical procedures indicate a desire for "final victory" over death is to read more than is necessary into a natural desire to put it off for a while.

Yours etc.,
RORY COONAN,
4 Morpeth Mansions,
Morpeth Terrace, SW.1,
March 29.

Taking 'The Times'

From the Reverend Robin J. Ray

Sir, The top people will always be able to afford the cost of the best newspaper but not all are able to complete *The Times* crossword.

Could it be that Mr. West (March 28) and Mr. Plowright (March 30) had completed theirs? In which case anyone unscrupulous enough to steal another man's newspaper can just as easily boast that the finished crossword is all his own work.

Yours etc.,
ROBIN J. RAY,
Dillon Marsh Vicarage,
Westbury,
Wiltshire,
March 30.

Wave of respect

From Mr. Benjamin Hughes

Sir, Last week in Hyde Park I saw a police constable wait to a mounted chief inspector. Can I humbly ask what has happened to the formal salute?

Yours faithfully,
BENJAMIN HUGHES,
6 Palace Road, W.12,
March 29.

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There is high inflation, flight of capital, no central banking system or monetary management programme, lack of development aid, a deteriorating balance of trade, foreign debts, and low productivity. Saddled with all these problems, the economy of the Turkish-controlled area of Cyprus started 1983 on a gloomy note, after failing completely to reach the goals of its first five-year plan (1977-1982). Its economy ground to a halt in 1981 and achieved a meagre 0.9 per cent growth rate last year - from the planned 7 per cent.

In the face of this stagnation, the administration of Rauf Denktaş continues to drag its feet over the implementation of proposed economic stability measures, preferring instead to rely on the established system of free enterprise and placing much of the blame for the slump on the Greek-Cypriot economic embargo.

A part of the community's difficulties stem from inexperience: the "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus" was proclaimed in 1973, a year after the Turkish army intervention in Cyprus and 12 years after a provisional administration assumed the task of governing the 125,000 Turkish-Cypriot residents of the island in 1963. In 1975 lack of skilled labour was such a problem, says a government official, that "we couldn't even find people to repair lifts." Now they have lift repairmen, but they lack trained white collar workers, especially in finance. "The lack of personnel, coupled with the

absence of a central bank," says Errol Gur, director general of State Planning Organization, "have made adequate control of banks impossible." More problematic is the schizophrenic nature of the community's status. "Are we a bird or a camel?" is the way Turkish-Cypriots describe their dilemma as an autonomous community that has not sought or received international recognition, is still technically a part of the Republic of Cyprus, and is totally dependent on a third party - Turkey - for its survival.

The Cyprus pound remains legal tender here, but since the Turkish Cypriots have no means of earning pounds, the Turkish lira has become their *de facto* currency. This lifeline from Turkey occasionally becomes a noose, for while the Cyprus pound is strong, the lira is subject to constant devaluation and persistent inflation. However, recent economic measures in Turkey have also benefited the Turkish-Cypriots, who managed to reduce their own inflation from an astronomical 123.7 per cent in 1979 to 33.5 per cent in 1982.

This is little consolation to the average Turkish-Cypriot, whose real income declined to under £660 this year. (His Greek counterpart earns nearly five times that amount.) He has to work two days to earn a pair of shoes. Housing is scarce and expensive, as are amenities like telephones (there is a two year wait for one).

The one bright spot in the economy is unemployment -

ECONOMY - THE NORTH

A gloomy start to the new year

officially only 2.6 per cent, although the real figure may be closer to 10 per cent. This has been achieved at the cost of productivity. The unwieldy civil service is a case in point: 11,000 people, many of them teachers, work for the government (the second largest employer); half of them, says Gur, are superfluous. And 50 per cent of the 17,760m lira 1983 budget will go on their salaries.

The wide disparity between the two economies of Cyprus is especially frustrating for the Turkish-Cypriots. They feel that economic stability has been achieved in the south through development aid which was not shared with the Turkish community and for which, as an unrecognized state, they cannot apply. Aid is badly needed to finance such projects as citrus irrigation (£1.5m) and the purchase of their own commercial airplane (£10m).

Implementation of a 30m ECU (£19m) EEC protocol to Cyprus for 1979-1982 was delayed when the Greek-Cypriots protested that no aid should go to the Turkish community. In the end most of the aid went to the south, Turkish-Cypriot Foreign Minis-

ter Kenan Atakol recently went to Brussels, where he told EEC officials that a planned second aid package should go to both sides or to neither.

Turkey has agreed to undertake as much of the development programmes as it can afford, including the first phase of the Morphou irrigation project, (which will be completed in June). And it continues to fund more than half of the budget of the Turkish-Cypriot government. This is greatly reduced from 1963, when it provided 90 per cent of the budget, but instead of becoming more self-sufficient, the Turkish-Cypriots are becoming more dependent: from funding a high of 53 per cent of their own budget in 1979, they have sagged to a projected 37 per cent in 1983.

Total aid in 1982 amounted to 11m lira, most of which Turkey provided. Because of the need to import nearly all consumer goods, the 1982 trade deficit was \$80.3m; it was partly offset by tourism revenues, leaving a balance of payments deficit of \$42.8m.

Twenty per cent of the gdp and 70 per cent of the export income stem from agriculture, with citrus providing the lion's

share. In 1981 160,000 tons were produced, of which 60 per cent was exported (much of it to the UK). Two thirds of the citrus industry is state-owned. The second-most important source of foreign revenue, tourism, faces similar problems. The number of tourists to northern Cyprus has steadily declined in five years from 112,910 to 87,629 (65,322 from Turkey). The only "positive development", according to Gur, is that the number of European tourists has slowly increased.

Potential tourists face a number of difficulties just getting to northern Cyprus: because Ercan airport is not accepted by the International Air Transport Association, flights must be routed through Turkey. And Greek-Cypriots have applied extreme pressure on travel agents not to book tourists into "illegally owned" hotels (all but one hotel were Greek-Cypriot owned). None the less, gross receipts (3,900m lira) outstripped all exports last year.

Perhaps the most serious stumbling block to growth is the lack of foreign and domestic capital for investment. Domestic savings are far below expectations (3 per cent of the gdp in 1982) because of an archaic law limiting interest on savings to 9 per cent with inflation at 33 per cent and Turkish banks offering rates six times as high, the savings end up in Turkey, effectively "recycling" the aid from Turkey as soon as it arrives and draining the banks. With no

central bank (the "Agricultural Bank of Turkey has shouldered the role) and large foreign debts, the Turkish-Cypriot government has little luck obtaining commercial loans. The government is making efforts to lure foreign firms to northern Cyprus through the opening and upgrading of a free port in Famagusta and a new law that will provide tax exemptions to the nine firms now there (including Nadir's Unifac). Critics claim, however, that this will cost the government badly needed revenues.

The private sector in northern Cyprus is dominated by a small but flourishing group of what the position calls the "merchant bourgeoisie." These entrepreneurs import luxury consumer goods from Europe and sell them in the scores of small shops in the main towns. Most of the goods are sold to Turks who cannot buy them on the mainland, where imports are restricted. Turkey indulgently imposes no tariffs on imports from northern Cyprus, but recently large-scale smuggling of such items as televisions and alcohol reached such proportions that Turkey slapped taxes on large numbers of previously duty-free items.

"We are the spoiled child of Turkey," admits a government spokesman. More accurately, perhaps, an adolescent undergoing both growing pains and an identity crisis and one not quite ready to cut the apron strings.

Amy MacDonald

ECONOMY - THE SOUTH

Time of opportunity and uncertainty

President Spyros Kyprianou's decisive re-election in February leaves the economic policy-makers facing both opportunities and some uncertainty. With parliamentary and presidential elections out of the way, the government can now concentrate on taking long-delayed decisions with less concern for electoral considerations. But at the same time Mr Kyprianou and his ministers will be aware that the communist Akel party contributed 34 per cent of his 57 per cent majority, and it will be seeking to translate this support into a greater role in decision making.

Fears of undue communist influence on what has traditionally been a free-enterprise economy have already affected investment, both domestic and foreign. A number of foreign enterprises with a long history in Cyprus have left in recent months.

The most notable departures were those of two British banks, Grindlays and Chartered, each of which sold out all its operations to a local bank in late 1982. The reasons were not entirely political, Cyprus is certainly overbanked, making profitability of the branches marginal relative to the management resources required to run them. And Grindlays in particular was badly hit by the law of 1974 suspending payments on debts affected by the Turkish occupation of the north. Nevertheless, the departures were a blow to confidence, especially when coupled with others by, for example, Wool-

worth and the Petrofina petrol-station chain, both of which also sold out to local interests. The fears of foreign investors are, perhaps, a panic reaction arising from a misunderstanding of Cyprus politics. Akel's support has been essential to almost every government since independence, but its influence has been exercised with a moderation that often surprises foreign observers. In particular, Akel and its affiliated PEO trade union federation have been remarkably restrained on economic policy, and the party is unlikely to win significant changes.

This was made clear just before the election, when the cabinet formally approved the 1982-86 five-year economic plan. The outlines of the plan were announced in late 1981, when they were attacked by Akel as too conservative. The party's delayed approval was seen as a signal to the electorate that the alliance with Akel would not be allowed to significantly affect economic policy.

The plan is significant in that it returns to medium-term planning, after the three shorter "emergency action" plans which followed the Turkish invasion in 1974. The first two of these succeeded in rebuilding the shattered economy, bringing unemployment down from a peak of more than 30 per cent immediately after the invasion to less than 2 per cent by 1978. By then, the economy had overheated to such an extent that stability was seriously



threatened by spiralling wage increases and inflation, widening budget deficits and a potentially disastrous growth in the payments deficit. That was in spite of rising revenues from tourism and other invisibles.

A stabilization programme with the 1979-81 plan brought the economy under control, but at the cost of a recession that badly hit the construction industry in particular. Inflation was brought down from a 13.5 per cent peak in 1980 to 10.8 per cent, and the trade deficit was reduced, but at the cost of a drop in gross domestic product (gdp) growth to only 2.4 per cent in 1981.

Last year - the first under the new plan - showed mixed results. Gdp growth accelerated to 4 per cent in real terms. Inflation was down further to about 6.5 per cent, while unemployment was held to below 3 per cent. But capital investment was again disappointing, boding ill for the competitiveness of Cypriot exports in the future.

That problem can only grow unless a way can be found to stimulate investment. Exports boomed in the mid-1970s, as Cyprus found ready markets for its manufacturers in the oil-fuelled economies of the Middle East. Many of these exports were labour-intensive low-technology products, such as clothing and footwear, which now face severe competition from low-cost producers in the Far East.

At the same time, Cyprus has become vulnerable to its dependence on Arab markets, which now account for almost half of its total exports. This has aroused a lot of concern locally, especially after problems in obtaining payments from Libya, one of Cyprus's largest markets.

In spite of booming exports, the trade deficit continues to grow and reached a record

Cyprus £310m in 1982. About half of this was covered by revenue from tourism and foreign investment and borrowing has ensured small but significant overall payments surpluses, adding to foreign exchange reserves. These now stand at almost £300m, enough to cover seven months' imports, which is high by international standards.

But this has been achieved at the cost of high foreign borrowing, which has also been necessary to cover an ever-growing budget deficit. Total foreign debt rose by 85 per cent during the 1979-81 plan. And dependence on tourist revenues is very dangerous, since the industry is so vulnerable to political shocks.

As the country moves further into the 1980s, the government is emphasizing a shift to high-technology capital-intensive industries, which would utilize Cyprus's more than adequate supply of skilled manpower. It is also stressing the development of the island into a regional service centre, taking advantage of its excellent geographical position and communications facilities.

Both these developments, however, depend on confidence in the island's stability on the part of the international business community. They also require a more explicit government policy on foreign investment. A free industrial zone at Larnaca, for example, has been completed for more than a year. But its marketing abroad has been delayed while regulations on its operation continue to be discussed.

The government is trying to transform Cyprus's small, family-oriented businesses into modern public corporations to meet the challenges of the future. Tax incentives to this end have already been introduced, the island's first mer-

chant bank may start operations this month, and a proper stock exchange is being discussed.

The private sector is expected to make about three-quarters of the Cyprus £2,000m in investment planned for 1982-86.

Nevertheless, the government has stated that it is willing to step in to finance investment opportunities ignored by the private sector.

This may make it difficult to control the budget deficit, planned to reach a record Cyprus £96m this year. The deficit has been blamed by many local economists - including those from the central bank - for stimulating inflation and the trade deficit.

The new five-year plan calls for a steadily declining fiscal deficit. But it is difficult to see how this can be achieved, especially if the government has to take a larger share of capital investment.

Expenditure on major irrigation schemes to modernize the agricultural sector will peak in the mid-1980s. Spending on refugees continues at a high level, and debt-servicing will make greater demands on resources. Unless these conflicting demands are reconciled, the government's deficit may prove a serious brake to what has been - under the circumstances - a remarkable economic success story.

Shakib Otaqui

Middle East Economic Digest

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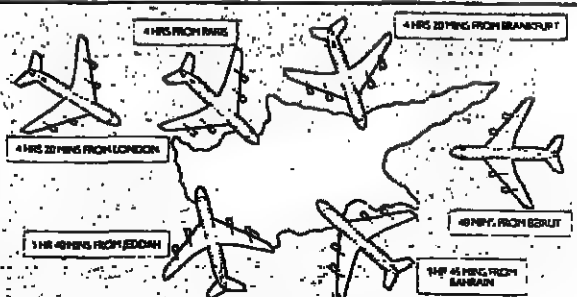
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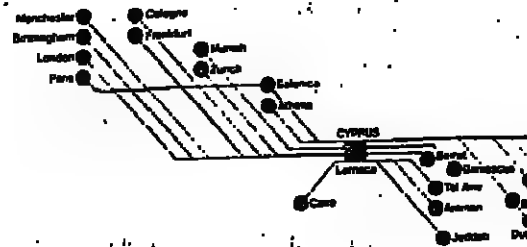
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TOURISM - THE NORTH

Crossroads of eight civilizations

Getting there is half the battle, but in spite of the problems - or perhaps because of them - it is well worth the extra effort to visit the still unspoiled countryside and beaches of northern Cyprus. For it is these very difficulties that have kept the tiny Turkish-Cypriot community from the onslaught of people, pollution, and progress that its natural beauty, historic sites, and Mediterranean setting would otherwise have invited.

The history of Cyprus is rich and varied. The island had been at the crossroads of at least eight civilizations from the Phoenicians to the Venetians. It was dominated successively by waves of foreign conquerors that culminated with the British, who relinquished possession of the crown colony in 1960, only to see Turkey invade the island once more in 1974.

The Turkish army is still very much present in now peaceful northern Cyprus, but it is viewed by the Turkish-Cypriot inhabitants, and even many of the 200 or so British residents, as a liberating army rather than an invader. Greek Cypriots, understandably, take a rather different view. But little remains of the strife from that era except memorials to the dead, rusting tanks - in the Peace Museum - and ghostly blue Eoka slogans that keep reappearing through the white-wash on the buildings.

The island was first inhabited in 1200 BC by Phoenicians and Assyrians, followed by Egyptians and Persians. One of the fascinating relics of the period of Alexander the Great to be seen in northern Cyprus is the salvaged hull of a 2,300-year-old ship found off Kyrenia harbour and now displayed, with its cargo of perfectly preserved almonds, in the Shipwreck Museum.

Many of the most striking ruins date from 58 BC, when Cyprus became a Roman province. There are two amphitheatres, one in the 2,600-year-old town of Soli, near Morphou, the other in Salamis, a city near Famagusta said to have been founded in 1180 BC by the brother of the Trojan war hero, Ajax.

Not far from Salamis are tombs with remains and artefacts from the Bronze Age; the eighth century BC St Barnabas was born and later murdered in Salamis, and St Paul was flogged there after converting the Roman governor (the flogging post still exists).

During the middle ages the

island was ruled by the Byzantine Empire, Richard Coeur de Lion (who conquered it in passing during the Crusades), Lusignans, an Venetians. During this era the three stunning medieval mountain fortresses were built in the Bosphorus range: St Hilarion and Buffavento, near Kyrenia; and Kantara Castle on the Karpas peninsula.

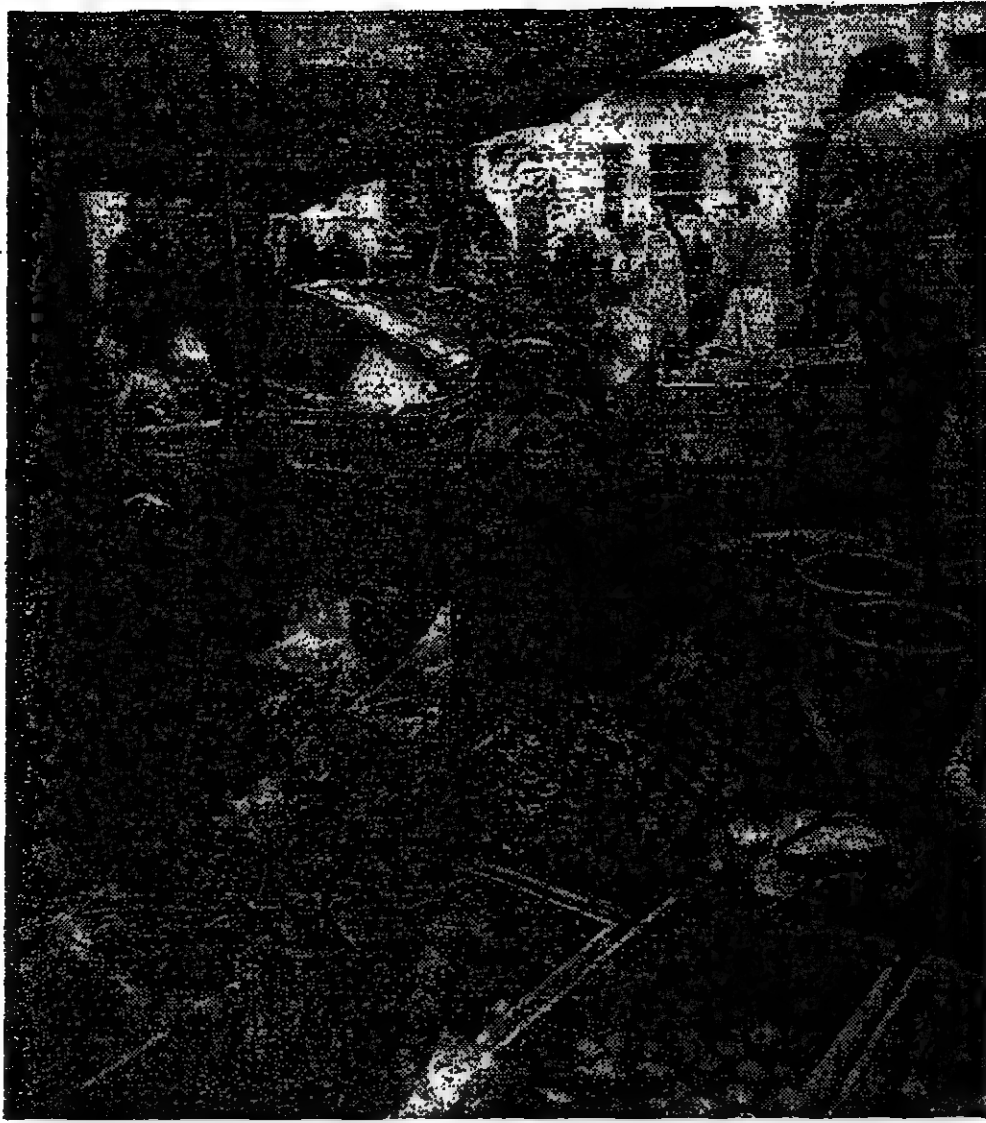
Other remains are the castle at Kyrenia harbour, "Othello's Castle" in Famagusta (it provided the setting and the plot for Shakespeare's play), the Abbey of Bellapais, on the foothills overlooking Kyrenia, and several lovely Gothic cathedrals in Nicosia and Famagusta.

A trip to any one of the castles is a must, not only for historic reasons: the views of the sapphire Mediterranean are unparalleled, and the air is so fresh it has to be breathed to be believed. Sit for a moment in the "royal apartments" in St Hilarion (altitude 2,500ft), looking out of Eleanor's window (the distraught queen committed suicide) and you will hear the music of the goat and sheep bells floating up from the hills and perhaps (as I did) spot a golden eagle overhead.

Or why not simply walk through the tiny white-succo and red-tiled villages into the foothills around Kyrenia and picnic in the orchards, surrounded by silver-leaved olive trees and a riot of flowers? Blossoming almond, lemon, peach, and carob trees, yellow wildflowers and purple anemones coat the green fields. The utter tranquility is apt to be broken only by a passing shepherd with his flock of fat-tailed sheep.

If that's too strenuous, you can relax under the Tree of Idleness next to the Abbey at Bellapais (where Lawrence Durrell lived while writing *Bitter Lemons*, which is required reading). And for sun-and-sea worshippers, there are long stretches of sand at Famagusta and the entire northern coast, which is dotted with isolated rocky coves and sandy spits where it is still possible to find solitude. The climate is suitable for swimming from April to October, and virtually every water sport is available during summer months.

It's hard to choose between the walled city of Famagusta, with its beaches, and the peaceful harbour of Kyrenia, with the mountain range at its back. From the windows of



Fruit, vegetables, flowers - a typical market scene in everyday Cyprus

Kyrenia's elegant Dome Hotel (once known as the "Doom" because of the number of "ancient Britons" who stayed there) you can watch the fishermen in rowing boats setting their nets at night. In the evening there are discos, casinos, and, of course, eating.

Skip the "international cuisine" (if you are homesick, you can go to the Grapevine, an "English pub") and try the local specialties. Each meal should start with a generous selection of *meze*, a variety of little dishes ranging from tahini to squid to *halloumi* (fried goat cheese). Follow that with some sheep's-yogurt-and-halloumi soup (*ypurli*) and either fresh fish or *kebabs*, washed down with delicious Turkish wine (Papaikani or Doluca - unfortunately the sweet brown native Cypriot wine is no longer available in the Turkish-occupied north). Canli Balik in Kyrenia offers 30 different kinds of excellent *meze*, and a good bet for fish is the Golden Rock restaurant west of Kyrenia.

Perhaps the region's greatest charm is not its physical beauty

but its people. The Turkish sense of hospitality is legend, and there still persists the notion that a visitor is not an intruder but a guest. Waiters, bartenders, and restaurant owners are eager to start up a conversation (English is widely spoken) and it is not uncommon in such cases, after you have downed a strong Turkish coffee and read your future in the empty cup, for the café owner to consider you a "friend" and refuse payment. One wonders how their businesses survive.

The prices are not the least of the attractions here, one of the few places where the local currency evaluations seem to have kept pace with the pound. Double rooms in four-star hotels start at about £11.50, in three-star hotels at £8. A bottle of the excellent local rakı costs less than £3, and a three-course lunch with wine in a good restaurant costs about the same. Car rentals start at £5.50 a day.

Unless you are planning a vacation to Turkey (in which case Turkish-occupied Cyprus is a short flight or ferry-ride

away), the basics of getting to north Cyprus are considerable - but surmountable.

Because Ercan is not recognized as an official international airport, travellers must change planes at Istanbul or make a "technical touch-down" in Izmir. Several direct flights a week are available - though you may have difficulty finding out about them - from London through Cyprus Turkish Airways or Turkish Airlines. Because of pressure from Greek-Cypriots, many travel agencies do not book tours to the area. (Those who are sensitive about staying in hotels run by since displaced Greek-Cypriots may stay in the Celebrity Hotel, built by Turkish-Cypriots after 1974). In short, it's best to inquire about travel arrangements directly through these two above-mentioned airlines.

Crossings can be made from southern Cyprus to the Turkish-occupied parts, but only for the day and not without a great deal of bureaucratic hassle.

Amy MacDonald

TOURISM - THE SOUTH

New Towns for old

No matter how thick the velvet glove, being pushed around by authority still hurts. And the Greek Cypriots clinging grimly on to the part of the island left after the invasion by Turkish troops in 1974 are in no mood to be nudged, even by their own people.

For this reason the tourism authorities are having a tough time introducing a degree of control into the development of southern Cyprus as a top tourist destination. The region has started to fall into that old tourist trap of over-development.

The resilience of the Greek Cypriots and their talent for organized hospitality, led them to begin shaping new tourist areas within a few months of the loss of the important resorts of Kyrenia and Famagusta. The development centred mainly around the small, though long-established, resorts of Limassol and Larnaca.

Larnaca airport was hurriedly built to service these resorts but is barely adequate to deal with peak-season arrivals. A new airport is nearing completion at Paphos, and is likely initially to take a few charter flights. However, it will be mainly used to export local produce.

The gnawing hope remains that the old international airport, on the wrong side of the Nicosia buffer zone guarded by UN troops, will be returned. The hope is partly responsible for the lack of developing a good alternative.

The building-boom in southern Cyprus does have its problems. There are already beds for more people than can be serviced by public transport, beaches, entertainment and, in some cases, even electricity, water and mains-sewage facilities. And hotels and apartments for a further 7,500 bed-spaces are now under construction.

The main fear is that hotel companies will go broke and that visitors will be confronted with half-completed buildings. Already the building site hoardings proclaiming the magnificence of a developer's dream stand guard over empty plots. It is likely that the tourism authority, which has described itself as a tiger with no teeth, will be given legislative power to introduce some reason into the situation.

The Cyprus holiday season has already stretched to 10 months a year. As far as the visitor is concerned, there is an ever-widening choice of destination, time of accommodation and time of visit. Hotels and holiday companies fight for business, and so the customer is in the middle of a price tug-of-

war which can obviously be beneficial - at least in the short term. But it may also mean that from next year onwards more care will have to be taken when choosing a holiday from the bottom price category. For Cyprus holidaymakers are now urging the Government to "get tough" to prevent any more unlicensed properties being built. And in the future this may mean that non-registered hotel and apartment properties may be "blacklisted" with little being made difficult, if not impossible, for holiday companies attempting to use these so-called cowboy developers.

Holidaymakers will be urged to check that the property they have chosen is licensed and that their holiday is assured. Such is the scale of the current rash of unlicensed properties that the Cyprus Hotel Association and the Cyprus Tourism Organization has already been persuaded to call an amnesty.

This means that any developer who already has a property built which he intends to use for holiday lettings can register. This will qualify him for an inspection and hopefully an official categorization.

The authorities are going out of their way to persuade the developers to register. Wherever possible, unlicensed properties will be found a suitable categorization. Where the property does not meet existing criteria it may be possible to create a new classification or to slightly bend regulations. Developers will also be given every help and encouragement to make alterations to meet regulations.

Where no such measures can be taken, the property will not be licensed and overseas holiday companies will be asked not to make any contact.

Fares from Britain to Cyprus can appear high because of the comparatively long journey but holiday life on the island is more often than not cheaper than elsewhere.

Accommodation, with breakfast, ranges from about £34 per night for a double room for instance, the five-star Poseidon Beach in Limassol to about £13 for a night in the two-star Hotel Apollo in Paphos.

Car Hire is reasonable and at certain times available for about £10 a day. Fuel, however is expensive.

Cyprus tries to cater for the tourist who will explore, spend plenty of money in hotel, taverna and shop, and come back another year, with friends. For this reason holidays on the island tend to be offered by the specialist rather than the big mass-market companies.

Large operators such as Blue Sky Holidays, Cadogan Travel, Exchange Travel, Flair, Olympie, Sovereign and Sunvil Holidays do offer packages. But most people tend to travel with the smaller specialists, such as Aspro, Cypriot, Cyprus Travel Club and Troodos Travel.

The region is Greek in nature in other words it displays a predominance of verbal excitement counterbalanced by physical apathy. It also has a commercial naivety which the established Greek resorts lack.

And the food, say the locals, is better than in Greece. A "meze" feast, plus local wine, will have none of the predictability of the Greek or London taverna and will cost a couple of pounds. Eating in a hotel restaurant will cost more and will lack local flavour. Nonetheless, it will still present the opportunity to try the much-lauded Cyprus vintage wine, Arsinioe 1962, which can cost upwards of £5.

Tavernas are typically well-disguised as used-car lots, but they often offer splendid diversions in the form of local colour or spectacular views, such as at Polis in the north-east of southern Cyprus.

The coastline around Polis is untouched by the developers, and those who know it would keep it so. There is only one apartment block development - in nearby Latchi - and the recently-extended and family-run Hotel Marion in Polis itself.

Paphos is an established resort with justifiably well-reputed hotels. It is an unspoiled and well-placed touring centre for the nearby ancient sites and fertile agricultural land. From Paphos, you can take the easy drive to the mountain resort of Platani or higher still to Troodos. In some months, it is possible to snow-ski in the mountains in the morning and water-ski in Paphos or Limassol in the afternoon.

Paralimni and its embryonic beach resort of Protaras is another off-the-beaten-track discovery with some of the best beaches in Southern Cyprus. Then there is the remote and unspoiled beach of Malenco, between Ayia Napa and Larnaca Bay.

Several of the remote places worth visiting do not have mains water, electricity or sewage disposal, and there are few decent roads. But there is little inconvenience, and the lack of sophistication is part of the charm of such places.

Christine Smith
Travel Trade Gazette

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SOLUTION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM LONG OVERDUE

Cyprus is an historic island with one of the most ancient civilizations of the world. However, her geographic position in the Eastern Mediterranean, at the crossroads of three continents, has made her very vulnerable in the sense that she was frequently the victim of foreign invasion and occupation. Thus, Cyprus fell in the hands of many conquerors; but the worse calamity ever inflicted on Cyprus in 4000 years is the one caused by the invasion of Turkey in the summer of 1974. For the first time in recorded history thousands of people, i.e. 40% of the Greek Cypriot population, were expelled at gunpoint from their ancestral homes and became refugees in their own country. Settlers from the depths of Turkey were brought to the occupied part to occupy the houses of the Greek Cypriot refugees in an attempt to change the centuries old demographic structure of the island. About 5,000 Greek Cypriots died and some 2,000 are missing. This is part of the tragedy brought about by "the Turkish Peace Operation". The traditions and customs in the towns and hundreds of villages - many of them going back to the times of Homer - were destroyed in a few days if not hours. Even the monuments of civilization - were regarded by the invader as an enemy worth destroying, as if the idea of human civilization could ever be crushed. Such a situation reminds one of the darkest pages of human history. The tragedy which has thus occurred, was conceived to perpetuate itself in order to serve the real aims of the invader.

Almost nine years have elapsed since the Turkish troops invaded Cyprus and occupied more than 36 per cent of its territory in a long-conceived attempt to destroy the independence of the Republic of Cyprus. The situation remains the same because the aim remains the same. It should be noted that the "Attila" line cutting right across the island, which was created by the "spontaneous" invasion of 1974, was proposed by Turkey herself ten years before the invasion to the United Nations Mediator. High-ranking officials in Turkey, on several occasions spoke about their policy of separation and partition years before the invasion. Had this not been the case, the Turkish troops would have left immediately after the restoration of constitutional order in Cyprus. It is obvious that Cyprus is one of the targets of Turkey's expansionist policy. This being the case, it is not surprising that there has been no substantial progress in the intercommunal talks. The necessary political decision on the part of Turkey to accept its responsibilities and permit a fair and viable solution to the problem is still missing.

The intercommunal talks, which are taking place under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and which have been going on for five years, have produced no results and it is rather obvious that this is entirely due to the intransigent attitude of Turkey and her policy of division. Although these negotiations cannot be described as freely conducted, because of the presence of the occupying troops, the Greek Cypriot side nevertheless accepted to attend the talks as a demonstration of goodwill and in the hope that some progress might be achieved. Despite the efforts of the Government of Cyprus and the Greek Cypriot side and their conciliatory attitude, which is generally admitted, nothing has been achieved up to now as far as the substance is concerned. The Turkish side has so far paid only lip service to the inter-

communal talks mainly for the purpose of misleading world opinion while at the same time proceeding with the consolidation of the false accords created by the invasion. While the intercommunal talks were taking place, new steps were taken by the Turkish side that went against the agreed basis of the talks. Every day new steps are taken against the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and unity of Cyprus. Ankara decided to establish a so-called Central Bank and a so-called Development Bank. The true aims of Turkey are evidenced by its decision to "abolish" the Cyprus pound in the occupied part and to introduce the Turkish Lira as "legal tender" in all transactions in the areas of the Republic occupied by its forces. Moreover, a "decision" was taken to issue so-called "title deeds" to the usurpers of the Greek Cypriot properties, especially to the settlers from Turkey. With these so-called certificates, the usurpers will be able to rent, sell or mortgage this property.

By these actions the Turkish leadership, instead of working for a solution of the Cyprus problem on the basis of the U.N. resolutions and the agreements of 12 February 1977 and 19 May 1978, is striving for the speedy incorporation of the occupied part of the Republic of Cyprus into the State of Turkey. International Law and the demands of the world community, as expressed in a series of resolutions of the U.N. Security Council, the General Assembly, the Non-Aligned countries and the members of Commonwealth, are all ignored by Turkey. One wonders how long.

Thus, the existing situation is characterised by additional illegal actions, demonstrating Turkey's ruthless determination to consolidate the fruits of its aggression and to deal what it considers final blows at the unity of the people of Cyprus - dearly cherished by Greek and Turkish Cypriots - in an effort to break the historical links which traditionally bind them and which have been forged by their common destiny, living as they do in the same country.

In an effort to show its goodwill the Greek Cypriot side accepted something which was unthinkable before. Federation was accepted as a basis for a solution. Cyprus is too small for a federal system, and yet that was accepted so that a solution to the Cyprus problem should be facilitated. But the Turkish leadership has proved that it does not want federation. It wants separation, it wants two separate states. The difficulty always lies in the presence of the Turkish occupation troops and the policy of expansion on the part of Turkey, in the policy of partition which would be disastrous for Cyprus and in the long run for the area as well.

Segregation so reminiscent of the deplorable system of apartheid has been imposed without shame as the policy of the invader in his effort to partition the island and annex the occupied part of Cyprus to Turkey. Division of the territory and segregation of the people, at present the official policy of Turkey, are carried out in Cyprus before the eyes of a world community that has repeatedly condemned such policies.

There is the question of security which is often invoked in so far as the internal situation is concerned. Some time ago the President of the Republic, Mr. Spyros Kyprianou, made a proposal for the total demilitarization and disarmament of

Cyprus. The Cyprus Government is prepared to agree to the stationing in the Republic of Cyprus, for as long as necessary, of an international U.N. Police Force which would supervise a united Greek Cypriot-Turkish Cypriot Police Force composed in accordance with the population ratio. The Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. Andreas Papandreu, offered to withdraw from Cyprus the small Greek contingent stationed under the 1960 Agreements, provided, of course, that all Turkish troops are withdrawn. He said that the Greek Government would be prepared to pay the cost for an enlarged peace-keeping force of the United Nations. This generous proposal of the Greek Prime Minister was fully supported by the Government of Cyprus.

It is to be argued that the aim of Turkey is the security of the Turkish Cypriots. It should be pointed out that these proposals gave them maximum security and should have been accepted; unless the aim is that the Greek Cypriots should never have any security. And the record should be put straight.

The invasion took place despite the fact that there were no incidents in the preceding six years. And, as stated above, the Turkish invasion caused the death of about 5,000 Greek Cypriots and the disappearance of almost 2,000. Is it the Turkish Cypriots or the Greek Cypriots then who are facing a security problem?

It is evident that the point has been reached when the international community must act with vigour and resoluteness to impress upon Turkey that this situation cannot be tolerated any longer. It is because of the lack of any progress towards a solution of the question of Cyprus and because of Turkey's contemptuous disregard of the U.N. resolutions that the matter will be raised again next month at a resumed session of the General Assembly. Although it is appreciated that the U.N. resolutions cannot by themselves solve the question of Cyprus, nevertheless they are very important; firstly, because they consolidate the state of the Republic of Cyprus; secondly, because they remind the world of what has happened and that this should not happen again, and thus, with the world community alerted, the security factor is served; and lastly, because the U.N. resolutions and the U.N. framework in general can guarantee a viable solution. It should be remembered that all U.N. resolutions on Cyprus serve as a basis for the solution of the problem as clearly stipulated in the May 1979 agreement between President Spyros Kyprianou and the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Rauf Denktaş, reached in the presence of the then U.N. Secretary-General.

Recently, at the 7th Non-Aligned Summit Conference in New Delhi, the question of Cyprus was discussed. The reference made to it by various Heads of State or Government during the general debate is proof of the fact that, despite the existence of many other problems, the Cyprus problem has not been forgotten. And it is believed that the debate itself and the contacts of President Kyprianou in the Indian capital have provided a new impetus both from the point of view of reactivating international interest in the Cyprus problem and from the point of view of strengthening the position of Cyprus internationally both its statehood and its positions on the Cyprus problem.

In the Final Declaration adopted on 12 March, the

Conference, inter alia, reiterated its full solidarity with and support for the people and Government of the Republic of Cyprus and reaffirmed its respect for that country's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and non-alignment.

The Heads of State or Government also expressed their deep concern over the fact that part of the Republic of Cyprus continues to remain under foreign occupation and demanded the immediate withdrawal of all occupation forces as an essential basis for the solution of the Cyprus problem. They welcomed the proposal made by the President of the Republic of Cyprus for the total demilitarization of Cyprus.

The Conference also stressed the urgent need for the voluntary return of the refugees to their homes in safety, the respect of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots, and the speedy tracing of, and accounting for, those missing, and condemned all efforts or actions aimed at altering the demographic structure of Cyprus. It considered that the de facto situation created by the force of arms and unilateral actions should not in any way affect the solution of the problem.

During his stay in India, President Kyprianou had a very long talk with the U.N. Secretary-General, Mr. Perez de Cuellar. During the meeting there was an exchange of views on what should be done to create movement in the Cyprus problem and promote a solution in accordance with the U.N. resolutions and the high-level agreements. What could be said is that this exchange of views will continue. It is very likely that President Kyprianou or the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. N.A. Rolandis, may have to go to New York for this purpose.

Before going to India, President Kyprianou visited Athens where he had talks with the Greek Government and personally with Premier Papandreu and his aides. In view of the Non-Aligned Summit and his scheduled meeting with the U.N. Secretary-General, President Kyprianou exchanged views with Mr. Papandreu on the present phase of the Cyprus problem. With Mr. Papandreu they agreed to meet again very soon to continue the review of the problem and the exchange of views in order to reach definite conclusions regarding the further handling of the Cyprus problem. The atmosphere in which the Athens talks were carried out was one of true cordiality.

In Athens President Kyprianou also had a meeting with the President of the Greek Republic, Mr. Karamanlis, who is always interested in the Cyprus problem and is closely following developments.

Almost nine years have passed since the Turkish invasion and the tragedy continues; about 200,000 Greek Cypriots are still refugees; almost 2,000 Greek Cypriots are missing; the Greek Cypriots enslaved in the occupied area continue to suffer, being subjected to all kinds of mistreatment and deprivation. The solution of the question of Cyprus is overdue. It is high time that Turkey took a political decision for a fair solution of the question of Cyprus. In the meantime, the people of Cyprus are continuing their peaceful struggle to free their country from occupation. It is high time that the problem of Cyprus, a problem of principles and a problem which emanates from the violation of international law, should be settled in a just manner.

Investment
and
FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 654.0 down 1.1
 FT All Shares: 412.09 up 0.15
 Bargains: 26.305
 Tying Mail USM Index: 169.1
 down 0.8
 Tokyo: 8420.34 down 65.48
 Hongkong closed
 New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1133 up 5.5

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5025 up 190 pts
 DM 3.6400 up 0.8
 DM 3.6400
 Yen 257.50
 Dollar
 Index 122.4 down 0.3
 DM 2.4203 down 69 pts
 Gold
 \$430 up \$15.15
NEW YORK LATEST
 Gold \$426.75
 Sterling \$1.5040

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates
 Base rates 10%
 3 month interbank 10%
 3 month dollar 9.8%
 3 month DM 5%
 3 month 13%
ECB Fixed rate
 Sterling Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for
 interest period March 2 to April
 5, inclusive: 10.91 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES

APV Holdings 3p up 13p
 BP 34p up 12p
 Lloyds 28p up 1p
 Marks & Spencer 18p up 5p
 RTZ 51p up 48p
 Tilling T 175p up 8p
 AB Electronics 45p down 2p
 BTR 432p down 1p
 Birt & Common-wealth 840p down 20p
 Exco Intl 663p down 20p
 De La Rue 570p down 10p
 Unilever 830p down 10p

TOLY

Interim: A. schman, Trident Computerservices
Finals: Braur, Brunton, Musselburgh, Christie, Coates, Bro, Fothergill and Harvey, John Jacob, Phoenix, G. W. Sparrow, Sun Alliance and London Ins., Arthur Woodson Son (Lorngport York Mnt).
Economic statistics: UK official reserve (March), Credit business (P), Wholesale price index numbers (March), Retail sales (Feb), Housing.

Zurich date
for Romania

Romania will meet a small group of leading Western creditors in Zurich on April 13 and 14 to review progress on proposals to reschedule \$600m of 1983 commercial debt.

About 1 per cent of Romania's 200 eastern creditor banks are believed to have responded positively to rescheduling proposals agreed in principle in February between Romania and the steering group of nine banks which has been leading negotiations.

The Zurich meeting will review responses from the 200 banks and could set a signing date for an agreement.

NEW CHAIRMAN: Mr Robert Haslam has taken over as chairman of Tate and Lyle replacing Lord Jellicoe who has become a non-executive director following his appointment as chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board. Mr Haslam was formerly vice-chairman of the group. Mr J. O. Lyle has retired as president and a member of the board.

OIL DEAL: Mexico will continue cooperating with Venezuela to send cheap oil to Central America and the Caribbean. Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex), the state oil company, said Pemex said it will continue the scheme, supplying 160,000 barrels a day to nine countries at 70 per cent of full price, until August at least.

TRADE DECLINES: Foreign trade by the world's industrialized countries declined for the second consecutive year in 1982, reflecting global recession, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Exports by industrialized countries totalled \$1,160,000m (£781,144m) last year, down 5.3 per cent from a year earlier. Imports totalled \$1,222,000m, down 6.1 per cent from 1981. The United States experienced the sharpest decline.

Wall Street
opens up
in active
trading

New York-Wall Street prices opened higher in active trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was ahead 4.16 to 1,131.76 shortly after the market opened.

Advances led declines 549 to 308 among the 1,289 issues crossing the NYSE tape.

Early turnover amounted to about 7,856,000 shares.

Observers noted the market firmed late on Monday and that trend carried over at the outset of this session.

Many experts said investors would be keeping an eye on Federal Funds rates to determine whether the Federal Reserve has tightened credit a bit to stem a surge in the nation's money supply in recent months.

Short-term Federal Funds rates dropped to about 9 1/2 per cent Monday after surging to 10 1/2 per cent late last week.

If the charges remain high, analysts said that might indicate the Fed, which late Friday reported a \$400m increase in the nation's money supply, has indeed tightened.

Volcker to
fight curbs
on FedFrom Bailey Morris,
Washington

The US Federal Reserve Board is engaged in a congressional dispute over what it regards as a dangerous attempt by the House Banking Committee to curb its ability to set monetary policy.

Mr Paul Volcker, the central bank's chairman, said yesterday that he would refuse to comply with a House directive that he provide objectives for economic growth, unemployment and inflation rates for this and the next three years.

Mr Volcker intends to mount next week a campaign to convince Congress that it would be extremely dangerous for legislators to limit the Fed's traditional independence.

According to an official, Mr Volcker believes that it is only the first step in a move by Congress to begin dictating policy to the central bank.

Federal Reserve officials fear their ability to control both inflation and credit growth would be seriously eroded if Congress attempted to direct the central bank to seek specific economic growth rates.

But Congressional critics of the central bank believe that the Fed's decision to pursue a tight money course early in the Reagan Administration caused the deep recession and that a good reason to place curbs on the bank's independence.

Mr Bernard St. Germain, chairman of the House Banking Committee, has told Mr Volcker that he is required to provide Congress with the requested information under provisions contained in the 1984 House budget resolution.

Mr Germain and other congressmen believe that if the central bank is required to state publicly its economic objectives then it will not be able to change course unexpectedly and move, for example, to tighten credit controls just as the recovery is picking up steam.

Recent indications that the Federal Reserve may have taken steps to tighten credit, thus putting pressure for a rise in interest rates, in response to a big surge in the money supply has accentuated the fears of Democrats.

Control and ownership of Lloyd's underwriting agencies should remain firmly in the hands of members of the London insurance market, although outsiders should be allowed to hold up to a third of the voting power, a Lloyd's working party has recommended.

If accepted by the Lloyd's Council, the proposals of the working party, headed by Mr Alec Higgins, will have an important influence on the future of the Lloyd's market.

The divestment clause in the Lloyd's Act requires Lloyd's brokers to sell off their underwriting management agents.

The working party was set up after an undertaking to Parliament to enquire into all aspects of the underwriting agency system at Lloyd's. Apart from proposals on ownership of managing agents, the working party has also put forward recommendations on ownership and control of members' agents.

About 114 managing agents are affected by the divestment clause and the working party recommends that not less than two-thirds of the voting power should be beneficially owned by either working or external names for whom the agent in question acts.

It also recommends restricting the stake held by any one person to 40 per cent and requiring Council permission for holdings of over 10 per cent.

It recommends that Council consent for stakes over 10 per cent should be expected to be given only to working members and that working members should make up not less than two-thirds of the board of directors of the managing agent.

By proposing to allow outsiders to control a third of the voting shares in managing

Target company chief condemns move as 'opportunistic'
£500m takeover battle looms after
BTR's dawn raid on Tilling

By Jeremy Warner

A £500m plus takeover battle loomed in the City yesterday when BTR launched a dawn raid in the stock market for 15 per cent of the shares of Thomas Tilling, a conglomerate with medical equipment, insurance, building materials and oil industry interests.

The raid, only partly successful, was immediately condemned by Sir Patrick Meaney, Tilling's chief executive, as "opportunistic". He made clear at a brief meeting yesterday with Mr Owen Green, managing director, that any future bid would be unwelcome. To stand any chance of success, it would have to value the group at well over £500m.

BTR, a fast-growing industrial conglomerate group with a stock market value of over £1,000m, employed the stock broking firm of Cazenove to buy 43.6m or nearly 15 per cent of Tilling's shares at 175p each.

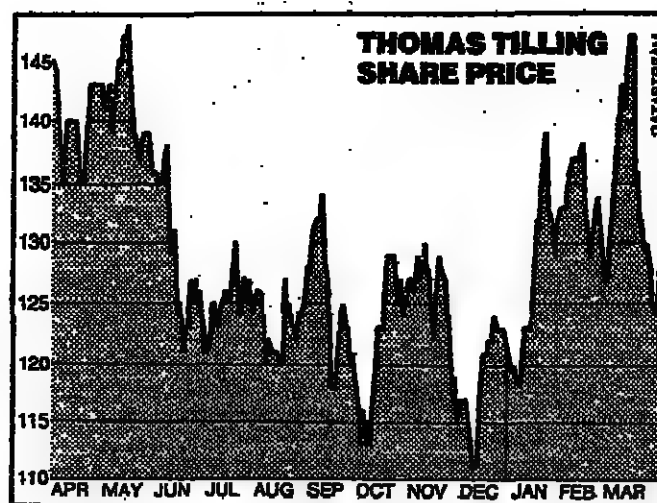
Although this was a substantial premium on the 125p at which the share opened in the stock market, Cazenove had managed to buy only 16.5m shares by the close, giving it a stake of just 5.5 per cent.

Cazenove told sellers that it was not BTR's intention to mount a full bid but the company refused to confirm this last night.

It is believed that BTR is prepared to return with a shares and cash bid pitched at more than 175p and this helps explain the lukewarm response to yesterday's dawn raid.

BTR was strongly rumoured to be preparing a major bid last Thursday but it was thought that its target would be Burnham Oil. Yesterday's raid on Tilling would appear to rule out that possibility.

A full-scale bid for Tilling now would hit the company at an extremely vulnerable stage. There has been considerable



City disillusion over Tilling since it reported last month a plunge in yearly pre-tax profits from £73.6m to £43.7m. Sir Patrick said, "Our profits have hit an all-time low mainly because of write offs in the oil-

related businesses. But there is going to be a substantial recovery this year and if there is disappointment in the City, we will certainly be putting it right in 1983.

"There is no synergy between

Attack on building
societies' status quo

By Lorna Bourke

A seven-point plan for the reform of building societies has been put forward by Lord Young of Darlington, President of the Consumers Association, and Marianne Riggs, Director of Mutual Aid Centre, in a letter to leading politicians.

Lord Young is raising the matter for debate in the House of Lords when Parliament reassembles in order, he said, to press the Government to be more explicit about its plans.

He referred to the societies' own report on new building society legislation as a "white-wash job" and said "if the societies themselves are not prepared to act, it is time for more detailed proposals to be put forward in the consumer interest."

Lord Young accused the societies of being too keen to maintain the status quo. "The societies have shown themselves so fearful that they might be made genuinely accountable to their members that they have recently produced their own report designed in general to ensure that the future powers and constitution of building

societies remain broadly what they have always been - that is loaded against members playing a proper part in the working of their own mutual societies."

Mr Richard Weir, Secretary General of the Building Societies Association said, "The mechanism for ordinary members to get elected to the board of a building society is already there - the sad thing is that the vast majority of members don't seem interested in exercising their rights."

There is a certain amount of apathy on the part of members.

"The Registrar of Friendly Societies believes that boards have a responsibility to appoint their members while leaving it open to ordinary members to put forward their own candidates."

Lord Young's charter proposals that board appointments should be disclosed, the interest rate cartel finally abolished; truth in lending exemption for societies removed and any reforms should ensure that society members retain freedom of choice.

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Lasmo in
£75,000
pay-offBy Jonathan Davis,
Energy Correspondent

Shareholders of Lasmo, the independent British oil company, are being asked to approve an ex gratia payment of £75,000 to Mr Hector Watts, the company's former chief executive, who reluctantly retired last year to make way for a younger man.

A resolution proposing the payment is to be put to the annual meeting to be held at the Barbican Centre on April 26. The sum was decided upon by a special board committee, and is understood to be about a year of Mr Watts's salary.

In the company's annual report and accounts, Mr Geoffrey Searle, the chairman of Lasmo, says he strongly recommends shareholders to approve the payment in the light of the company's performance since Mr Watts joined in early 1979.

Mr Searle says: "Shareholders who have seen the expansion and progress in profitability since 1979 will appreciate what he has achieved." In the last five years Lasmo has grown from a small financial holding company employing less than 10 people in an international exploration and production company with several hundred staff. Pre-tax profits have leapt from £23.4m to £223.3m.

Mr Watts's departure comes after the board's appointment last November of Mr Chris Greenacre, a 47-year-old Canadian oilman, in the post of chief executive. Mr Watts had originally expected to retire at the age of 65, but was effectively persuaded to leave earlier, when he was still only 60.

Mr Watts would not comment publicly on the affair yesterday, but Mr Searle said that the matter had been resolved in a "gentlemanly" manner. He would be personally recommending the payment at this month's annual meeting.

Shareholders in Britoil have until 3 pm today to pay the second 115p call on their shares, or risk forfeiture under the terms of the company's controversial privatisation last November.

Ford claims Sierra
March best-seller

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The intensifying competition between Ford and BL in Britain's booming car market reached a new peak yesterday, with Ford claiming that its Sierra model had beaten the Metro to become the March best-seller.

Ford said that, within six months of the Sierra's launch, the model had won a forecast 10.5 per cent of a single month's sales. The Metro is likely to be the number two seller, followed by the Ford Escort and Fiesta.

Total new car sales for March, as predicted in *The Times* last week, are about 190,000 compared with 175,169 a year ago, boosting the total for the first quarter to about 470,000 and strengthening the view that the 1983 market could set a record of 1.8 million.

Ford, now in the middle of a sales campaign worth up to £30 a car in dealer incentives, said it was clear that, in March, no other model could catch the Sierra.

In a statement indicative of the out-thrust nature of the market, Ford said: "This is in spite of rival leadership claims

made earlier in March for specific periods of the month." After the first 20 days of March, BL claimed that the Metro had won 10.7 per cent of sales; and the new Maestro almost 5 per cent.

The one major shadow across the industry's hopes of a boom year are the damaging disputes at BL and Ford which could seriously undermine both companies' spring sales drives and allow imports, which are starting to show signs of being depressed, to rise again.

Ford, in singing the praises of the Sierra, said yesterday that the car had risen from a 2.5 per cent market share last October to 8.5 per cent in February and 10.5 per cent last month.

Production of Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars slumped from 3,100 to 2,400 last year, according to the annual report of Vickers, which owns the company. Profit before interest also fell sharply - from £16.2m to £5.2m, the workforce at Rolls-Royce Motors was cut by 22 per cent. Despite this, overseas sales rose £6m to a new record of £89m.

Bid battle
likely
for Johnson

By Jonathan Davis

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission's findings on whether two bids for Johnson group cleaners should be stopped are with the Trade Secretary whose decision is not expected before the end of the month.

City opinion is, marginally, that the two bidders, Sunlight Service Group and Initial, will be allowed to fight it out for control of Johnson which successfully defeated a bid by Sketchley in 1977, through a monopolies ruling.

Sunlight's original bid, made last June via a convoluted share package, was worth about £30m or 27.2p a share.

Initial could easily outbid Sunlight but probably would not pay entirely in cash if it won.

Investors' Notebook, page 22

Barclays-TSB
cashpoint link

The country's cash dispenser machines were yesterday divided into two nationwide rival networks, when Barclays announced that it was linking with the Trustee Savings Bank and the Bank of Scotland to allow customers of one bank to use any of the three banks' machines.

Barclays is also discussing a bi-lateral link with Yorkshire Bank. It has already announced a similar though not identical link with the Bank of Scotland, Lloyds, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Williams & Glyn's.

City Comment

Home loan
hawks are
gathering

Pressure is mounting within the building societies for an increase in rates and this week's meeting of the Building Societies Association Council is likely to be the last when the doves will win the day.

Demand for home loans is running at record levels. Last month, the societies lent nearly £1,500m, a 50 per cent increase on the same time last year.

The hawks on the BSA Council would prefer to pull in more money with higher investment rates, even if it means a mortgage rate increase of 1.5 per cent. They argue that the housebuying public would prefer to pay a little more for their loans but be certain that money was available when it was required.

The problem has been the banks which stepped into the home-loan market two years ago with rash promises of a long-term presence, only to pull out, with equal haste when the going got tough.

Bank lending on home loans reached a peak last October when it topped £440m but has since fallen below £140m a month. The societies - which warned at the time that mortgage demand is virtually insatiable - are now being forced to pick up this extra lending.

Building society receipts since the beginning of the year have fallen below £400m a month, compared with the £700m required to meet mortgage demand. The societies have been forced to fall back on their liquidity cushion which has dropped from nearly 21 per cent at the end of last year to 18 per cent today. March net receipts were not good and insult has been added to injury by National Savings doubling of the amount which can be invested in the present issue of National Savings Certificates from £2,500 to £5,000.

Banks base rates are still 1.5 per cent above the level of last November when the building societies last changed their rates.

Pressure to increase building society rates is considerable within the council, the restraining factors seem to be the fear of Mrs Thatcher's response (horror stories of the lashing meted out to the banks when they wanted to raise their rates are widespread) - and the desire of the societies to get the legislation they want passed by the next government, if it is headed by Mrs. Thatcher.



Savour the finest Gascony cuisine, prepared by a team of chefs led by Andre Daguin of the celebrated Hotel de France, Auch.

Monsieur Daguin's restaurant is famous among connoisseurs of superb food the world over, and holds two coveted stars in the Michelin Guide.

The Festival Gastronomique Gasconne will be held in the magnificent Four Seasons Restaurant at the Inn on the Park from Monday April 11th until Saturday April 16th.

For a week to be long remembered, you'll find Gascony at the end of Park Lane.

For reservations, call 01 499 0888.

Inn on the Park
 The Four Seasons Restaurant
 Hamilton Place, Park Lane,
 London W1

Beazer now close to Second City takeover

By Baron Phillips
Property Correspondent

C H Beazer, the Bath-based housebuilding, construction and property group, looks set to take over the Midlands company, Second City Properties, following further irrevocable acceptance of its £18.4m bid. Beazer now owns, or has acceptances from, about 30 per cent of the issued shares in Second City.

Unfortunately, just as Beazer looks set to complete the deal, Mr Cyril Beazer, the chairman, has died.

Beazer's aggressive cash and shares bid, valuing Second City shares at almost 78p, now looks a shade expensive. Last week, Second City published details of an independent valuation of its investment portfolio which showed an open market value of £13.1m.

So far Beazer has acquired about 3.5m Second City shares, equivalent to almost 18 per cent, and has support from the directors who control 12 per cent of the group, a further 3.9 per cent will come from the Garmor investment group.

Maxwell turns BPCC round to £12m profit

British Printing & Communications Corporation
Year to 31.12.82
Pre-tax profit £12.4m (1.2m loss)
Statutory earnings 11.4p (1.5p)
Turnover £182.5m (£188.1m)
Final dividend nil (same)
Share price 98p down 10p

British Printing & Communications Corporation moves into its third year with Mr Robert Maxwell at the helm on a strong note. Yesterday BPCC reported a pre-tax profit of £12.4m for 1982 (after exceptional items) against losses of £1.2m the previous year, on a turnover down by 3.5m to £182.5m.

The figures include a healthy £215,000 contribution from exceptional items which included £175,000 profits on the sale of the company's 19.1 per cent stake in Bemrose.

A further £2.1m has to be allowed for extraordinary items, which mainly relate to the cost of rationalizing the BPCC printing businesses, and a £471,000 currency loss from the publishing business in Sweden.

Even so, after stripping out all the extraordinary costs, there was an impressive £11.1m profit on the bottom line.

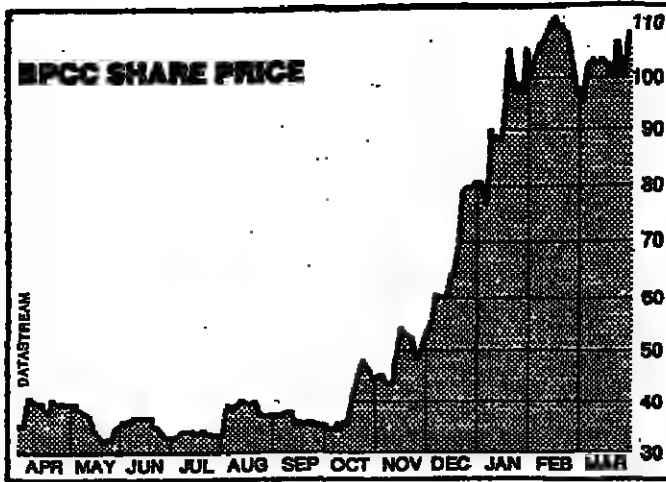
Mr Maxwell declined to provide a breakdown of where the profits were made, beyond indicating that the Swedish operation made a strong contribution. A good contribution, too, came from the British printing plants, which benefited from improved productivity.

A more detailed breakdown of the group's performance will be made available when the 1982 annual report is published in May.

Mr Maxwell says that his survival plan for BPCC will be completed by the end of this year when he has completed the rationalization of Sun Printers and Odhams in Watford, and sorted out problems at the Park Royal printing plant in London.

He is looking for a further increase in profits during the year and is confident that payment of dividends on both ordinary and preference shares will be resumed during 1983.

However, shareholders will have to wait for the 1982 annual report to gain a clearer understanding of just where the profits are coming from, before a full assessment is possible.



BPCC SHARE PRICE

APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR

Dividend

Johnson Group

Johnson Group Cleaners
Year to 31.12.82
Pre-tax profit £5.8m (£4.1m)
Statutory earnings 33.91p (17.97p)
Turnover £50.7m (£44m)
Net second interim dividend 8p (5.55p)

Share price 348p+5p Yield 4.4%
Dividend payable 28.4.83

Much better than expected results from Johnson Group Cleaners have strengthened the

board's hand in two ways: first, if Trade Secretary approves two would-be bidders, they provide a stiff backbone for the defence. Second, if he stops the bid, the results will underpin the share price to stop it collapsing along with takeover hopes.

Opinion in the City is divided over what the decision from Lord Cockfield will be. But Johnson's 40 per cent increase in the dividend over last year indicates the board is

not convinced it will be in its favour.

What worries the company's followers is that if initial or Sunlight Service group are stopped from bidding, Johnson will end up stuck on a profit plateau just as it did after it fought off the Sketchley bid in 1977.

Last year consumer business picked up early in April and May and profits increased from £3.3m to £4.6m while the industrial side remained flat. Now the industrial side is now showing some strength or at least it is no longer such a tough race to put on business faster than it was being lost by factory closures.

APV Holdings

A.P.V. Holdings
Year to 31.12.82
Pre-tax profit £17.6m (£18.4m)
Statutory earnings 34.85p (37.27p)
Turnover £338m (£293m)
Net final dividend 7.7p mkg 10.5p (9.6)
Share price 358p up 13p Yield 4.2%

APV has increased its profits only slightly, but the substan-

tially increased dividend is still more than covered on current cost accounts.

The engineering group has turned round the British four-dry side and has been rationalizing the United States food in going into 1983 with a high order intake, low gearing (15 per cent) and prospects generally look bright.

The group's spread of activities does, as it says, give it considerable abatement of new technology, last year spending £7m on capital investment, a sum which will be increased in line with inflation this year.

Brazil was in last year, but the management has taken action to stem the drain and hopes to at least break even this year.

Spending on rationalization in 1982 was heavy, as shown by the £3.5m extraordinary item. APV hopes this will clear the decks, and that only a minimal sum, if any, will be spent this year.

Hopes are that the group will make as much as £19m this year, with another increase in the dividend.

Ambrosiano inquiry for S America

From John Eagle
Rome

Members of the Italo-Vatican Mixed Commission, set up in December to ascertain the Vatican bank's involvement with the Banco Ambrosiano empire of the late Signor Roberto Calvi, are reported on their way across the Atlantic to investigate former Ambrosiano subsidiaries in the western hemisphere.

They are expected to visit the Banco Andino in Lima, Peru, the Ambrosiano Grupo Comercial in Managua, Nicaragua, and the Banco Ambrosiano Overseas of Nassau, Bahamas. Monsignor Paul Marchisio, the American archbishop who heads the Vatican bank, the Istituto per le Opere di Religione (IOR), used to sit on the board of the Nassau subsidiary.

The Italian government maintains the IOR owed the Ambrosiano group \$1,200m (£797m) when the latter collapsed last summer. Much of this resulted from complicated operations by Signor Calvi involving Ambrosiano group banks and phantom companies owned by the IOR.

The Vatican denies liability.

LONDON METAL EXCHANGES	
Prices in pounds per metric ton Silver in pounds per fine ounce	
High grade copper	119.00-119.50
Three months	119.00-119.50
Standard (99.95% copper)	119.00-119.50
Lead	118.00-118.50
Three months	118.00-118.50
Standard (99.95% lead)	118.00-118.50
Aluminium	117.00-117.50
Three months	117.00-117.50
Standard (99.95% aluminium)	117.00-117.50
Steel	116.00-116.50
Three months	116.00-116.50
Standard (99.95% steel)	116.00-116.50
Iron	115.00-115.50
Three months	115.00-115.50
Standard (99.95% iron)	115.00-115.50
Gold	114.00-114.50
Three months	114.00-114.50
Standard (99.95% gold)	114.00-114.50

COFFEE	
Yield's	
Arabica	119.00-119.50
Robusta	118.00-118.50
Standard	117.00-117.50
Three months	116.00-116.50
Standard (99.95% coffee)	115.00-115.50
Iron	114.00-114.50
Three months	113.00-113.50
Standard (99.95% iron)	112.00-112.50
Gold	111.00-111.50
Three months	110.00-110.50
Standard (99.95% gold)	109.00-109.50

SUGAR	
Yield's	
White	119.00-119.50
Yellow	118.00-118.50
Standard	117.00-117.50
Three months	116.00-116.50
Standard (99.95% sugar)	115.00-115.50
Iron	114.00-114.50
Three months	113.00-113.50
Standard (99.95% iron)	112.00-112.50
Gold	111.00-111.50
Three months	110.00-110.50
Standard (99.95% gold)	109.00-109.50

WHEAT	
Yield's	
Hard	119.00-119.50
Soft	118.00-118.50
Standard	117.00-117.50
Three months	116.00-116.50
Standard (99.95% wheat)	115.00-115.50
Iron	114.00-114.50
Three months	113.00-113.50
Standard (99.95% iron)	112.00-112.50
Gold	111.00-111.50
Three months	110.00-110.50
Standard (99.95% gold)	109.00-109.50

COTTON	
Yield's	
Upland	119.00-119.50
Pima	118.00-118.50
Standard	117.00-117.50
Three months	116.00-116.50
Standard (99.95% cotton)	115.00-115.50
Iron	114.00-114.50
Three months	113.00-113.50
Standard (99.95% iron)	112.00-112.50
Gold	111.00-111.50
Three months	110.00-110.50
Standard (99.95% gold)	109.00-109.50

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES	
Prices in pounds per contract	
Gold	119.00-119.50
Silver	118.00-118.50
Standard	117.00-117.50
Three months	116.00-116.50
Standard (99.95% gold)	115.00-115.50
Iron	114.00-114.50
Three months	113.00-113.50
Standard (99.95% iron)	112.00-112.50
Gold	111.00-111.50
Three months	110.00-110.50
Standard (99.95% gold)	109.00-109.50

Eight-point package to aid Japan's economy

Tokyo (Reuters) - The Japanese Government, acting with unusual speed, yesterday adopted a package of eight measures intended to boost the economy and to achieve the target of 3.4 per cent real economic growth in the financial year which began on Friday.

A press statement issued after the meeting of the Economic Affairs Ministerial Council said the measures were taken in the wake of rising unemployment, and low and static production levels, though stable prices had contributed to a modest expansion of the economy.

The measures do not require any additional expenditure by the Government, already troubled by a huge fiscal deficit.

Despite this share prices fell slightly and the yen lost ground against the dollar. Dealers said the measures were known in advance and had already been taken into account.

Among other things, the package calls for effective management of monetary policies, a veiled expression of the government and ruling Liberal

Democratic Party (LDP) leaders' wish for a cut in the official discount rate.

The LDP is particularly eager to see the interest rate reduced before the April 10 and 24 nationwide local elections.

But Mr Haruo Matsuoka, the Governor of the Bank of Japan, has stood out against any reduction of the discount rate, presently at 5 per cent, because it could further weaken the yen against the dollar.

Another major part of the package was a concentration of more than 70 per cent of fiscal 1983 public works spending in the fiscal of the year.

The Government did not say whether it could produce a supplementary budget to provide extra money for the second-half (July) year.

Other measures included proposals to streamline and improve existing systems and programmes and covered house building, private investment, small businesses, employment, recession-hit industries, and international trading relations.

Habit acquires Abrasives

Habit has acquired Precision Abrasives of Lichfield, Staffs, from Warner, Wright and Rowland, part of the Benjamin Priest Group.

Precision Abrasives makes industrial diamond products similar to those manufactured by Habit's subsidiaries.

Total consideration of £60,000 satisfied the issue of 140,000 new ordinary Habit shares.

These shares have been placed subsequently with a number of investors, on behalf of the vendors.

Precision abrasives accounts show net assets of £45,524. A £59,951 loan due to the parent company, is being assigned to Habit for nominal consideration.

Abrasives had broken even in the past two years after covering the parent company financial and management charges and expenses.

The acquisition will provide Habit Group with a useful production base in the West Midlands and additional turnover of approximately £300,000 a year.

Suppliers await verdict on cable TV contracts

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

Britain's communications industry's hardware suppliers are likely to learn this month if their confidence in the prospects for a national cable television network will be rewarded.

The Home Office and the Department of Industry have argued for many weeks over who should award franchises and how they should be policed. Even in this atmosphere of uncertainty Britain's big electronic companies have been making tentative plans. Racal, Plessey, GEC and STC have all been investigating the potential of cable.

Racal and Oak Industries the US supplier of television equipment have formed a joint venture called Racal-Oak Communications which will import equipment initially from America, but it is intended to manufacture in Britain eventually. Cable & Wireless has gone

into partnership with the banking and investment group, Charterhouse, and Commo TV of Texas a prominent American cable television construction company is ready to respond quickly to the decisions expected from the Government.

British Telecom has set up a special division to explore the potential of cable television. Of the half dozen companies which have approached the Department of Industry with plans for cable networks all wish to be in partnership with British Telecom.

However, those government decisions have been slow in coming and the momentum from a surge of interest in cable television last year has largely been lost as the Government has attempted to come to terms with a subject whose complexities it had not quite appreciated.

The enthusiasm of the proponents of cable television has not been damped by the opponents of the technology but by a mass of serious analysts who have surveyed the technical, financial and political options. Research into audience response is being given priority and it is predicted that 25 months might be the most subscribers would pay for a service.

What has also contributed to the more subdued approach to the technology of cable is the realization that a high level of finance will be required. Estimates published last spring by the Information Technology Advisory Panel (ITAP) which first conducted a study on cable television for the Cable Office had estimated that an investment of £2,000m would be required to connect half the homes in Britain to a cable television service.

United Newspapers plc

Profit for 1982 up 49.5%

Growing confidence for 1983

The Chairman, David Stevens, reports

In a year in which the economy sustained long and severe recession, we are pleased that both the newspaper and commercial printing divisions of United Newspapers maintained trading volume. In all it has been an active year, both within the company and with acquisitions, and one in which we have seen profits rise significantly.

At £3,441,000, pre-tax profits increased 49.5% over last year, a figure influenced by the results of companies acquired during the year - in particular The Colonial Securities Trust plc, and PR Newswire Association Inc.

At the trading level, profits rose £1,292,000 - an increase of some 43% - with both periodical and printing divisions improving margins and profitability. Investment income was also stronger, and more than doubled over the previous twelve months to £1,325,000, largely because of the contribution of interest on funds realised by the sale of the Colonial Securities investment portfolio. Cash resources at the end of the year amounted to £7,784,000 compared with £4,825,000 for the last year.

Accordingly, we are able to recommend a final dividend of 7.5p per share - bringing the total dividend for the year to 21.7p - which is equal to that of last year but on increased share capital.

Earnings per ordinary share are 21.7p allowing the dividend to be covered 1.7 times by earnings from ordinary activities.

Capital Investment
We spent more in 1982, with replacement presses bought for our commercial printing companies in Blackpool and Blackburn, and the purchase of accounting computers. This took total expenditure to £3,810,000 compared with £2,254,000 in 1981. £2.6 million of the

cost of the Lancashire centralised printing project falls into 1983, some £539,000 having been spent in 1982.

Publishing and Printing
Both the newspaper publishing and commercial printing operations are linked to the health of the economy generally, and in the circumstances performed well.

During the year our managers have supported the Newspaper Society initiative "Project Breakthrough" which is aimed at arriving at union agreements in Britain for the sensible use of the newest technology in our newspaper offices. The new systems will shortly become essential if we are to maintain our position as leading information providers in our sales areas.

Reorganisation for improved efficiency
Your directors share my belief that the only way to achieve future growth in the profitability of the Company is to ensure that we produce in the most efficient and economical way. As such, we have considered it prudent to

charge in the year under review £2,441,000 after tax to cover changes in working practices and the costs of reorganisation and closure which have already been incurred, and which are foreseen as likely elsewhere in the group, during 1983. This has been treated as an extraordinary item in the consolidated profit and loss account.

It is a sad consequence of the remedial action that is needed to ensure our survival in a highly competitive environment that members of our staffs - many of whom are long serving - are being asked to give up their jobs. We are all deeply conscious of the personal difficulties that this will cause: we do, however, have to have proper regard for the thousands of employees who look to us for employment, and whose future livelihood can only be secured by producing our newspapers in the most efficient way possible.

These cost savings will enable further capital investment to take place. Expenditure on new methods, including direct input, will facilitate the fast and efficient production that will enable our newspapers to withstand competition, and expand in the future.



Acquisitions

As previously reported, The Colonial Securities Trust plc was purchased in February 1982 for shares. The investment portfolio was realised for a sum of £10.9 million, with the exception of a small equity holding in an oil production and exploration company in the USA.

As part of the move into information technology, PR Newswire Association Inc. of New York became a member of the group on 1st September 1982. This has proved a most worthwhile purchase, and has already produced profits in excess of £450,000 for the four months from the 1st September 1982.

In addition, The Soman-Wheeler Press Limited of Norwich has joined United Printing Services, and the two retail newspaper companies in Yorkshire were merged to form United News Shops with effect from 1st July.

The future
The major satisfaction must be that, in spite of unemployment and lack of growth in the economy, our sales teams have by and large held their market shares. We have not been lured into the jungle of indiscriminate price cutting and, in the current circumstances, have done well to hold volumes. Heightened competition has sharpened the edge of our sales effort and this - along with the elimination of loss making parts of our business - will improve our relative performance when the economy recovers.

We look forward to the rest of 1983 with growing confidence.

United Newspapers plc

Summary of Results
Year ended 31st December

recovers.
We look forward to the rest of 1983
with growing confidence.

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Swire Pacific Limited

Consolidated results for the year ended
31st December 1982 and 1982 final dividends

Results. Audited consolidated results for the year ended 31st December 1982 were:

	Year ended 31st December	
	1982	1981
	HK\$m	HK\$m
Turnover	7,952.2	6,943.8
Operating profit	1,174.5	1,393.0
Interest charges — net	364.3	240.7
Net operating profit	810.2	1,152.3
Share of profits of associated companies	92.9	70.7
Profit before taxation	903.1	1,223.0
Taxation	105.7	158.8
Profit after taxation	797.4	1,064.2
Minority interests	198.7	338.3
Profit before extraordinary items	600.7	727.9
Extraordinary items	—	36.8
Profit for the year	600.7	764.5
Earnings per share:		
'A' Shares	169.9c	207.9c
'B' Shares	34.0c	41.6c
Dividends per share:		
'A' Shares: Interim	24.0c	24.0c
Final, recommended	32.0c	32.0c
'B' Shares: Interim	4.8c	4.8c
Final, recommended	10.4c	10.4c
	15.2c	15.2c
Net assets per share:		
'A' Shares	12.33	14.02
'B' Shares	2.47	2.80

The profit of HK\$600.7 million attributable to shareholders of Swire Pacific Limited for 1982 included a profit from Swire Properties Limited of HK\$229.1 million which was lower than that of the previous year, reflecting the difficult conditions in property markets during 1982. Cathay Pacific Airways Limited's results showed an improvement over those of the previous year reflecting the maintained profitability of airline operations and surplus on the disposal of aircraft and equipment. The shipping, offshore services, and dockyard division recorded substantial improvements in profits during the year. Industrial activities, enhanced by acquisitions, achieved a substantial increase in operating profits. The results for the year of the trading division were affected by the world trading recession and were marginally lower than in 1981.

Final dividends. The directors of Swire Pacific Limited will recommend to shareholders at the Annual General Meeting on 27th May 1983 the payment of final dividends of 32.0c (1981: 32.0c) per 'A' share and 10.4c (1981: 10.4c) per 'B' share payable on 10th June 1983 to shareholders on the register of members on 29th April 1983. The share register will be closed from 18th April 1983 to 29th April 1983, both dates inclusive. Once again, the final dividends will be satisfied by the issue of scrip to each class of shareholder, with the option being given to shareholders to elect to receive cash in lieu of scrip in respect of part or all of such dividends. Full details of the scrip dividend procedures will be set out in a circular letter which, together with the forms of election for the payment of cash dividends, will be sent to shareholders on 8th May 1983.

Investment properties and net assets per share. The annual valuation at open market value of the investment properties of the Swire Properties group was carried out at 31st December 1982 by Jones Lang Wootton; their valuation of HK\$3,938.2 million represented a reduction of HK\$1,436.3 million in comparison with the valuation at 31st December 1981. Of this reduction, HK\$1,040.3 million is attributable to Swire Pacific Limited and has been taken to reserves and set off against previous increases in valuations. Taking into account both the retained earnings in 1982, and the reduction in the valuation of investment properties, the net asset values of the shares of Swire Pacific Limited at 31st December 1982 were HK\$12.33 per 'A' share and HK\$2.47 per 'B' share which compare respectively with HK\$14.02 and HK\$2.80 at 31st December 1981.

Prospects. There are now positive indications of some improvement in demand in the property market in Hong Kong and, if this is confirmed, it should result in better trading results in the property division; recurrent earnings from investment properties will increase further from present levels and the division as a whole is well placed to take advantage of any further improvement in market conditions. The first quarter's results of Cathay Pacific Airways are encouraging, with some reduction in fuel prices, we would expect an improved operating result in 1983. All other divisions within the Group are expected to achieve satisfactory results in 1983.

The Annual Report for 1982 will be sent to shareholders on 5th May 1983.

Hong Kong, 30th March 1983

Swire Pacific Limited
The Swire Group
Swire House, Hong Kong.

From the Directors of Cope Allman International P.L.C.

COPE ALLMAN INTERNATIONAL



TO ALL COPE ALLMAN SHAREHOLDERS

**DOWABLE'S LETTER TO YOU OF 31st MARCH, 1983
IS MISLEADING AND SHOULD BE IGNORED**

The letter from Dowable attempts to focus your attention on the last two financial years (a period of major reorganisation) and, by being very selective, it has produced a misleading document which is obviously intended to divert attention from more relevant factors.

For example, you should note that:—

- the annual salary increases for the present executive directors in July 1981 and July 1982 in fact averaged 8.8 per cent, and 6.5 per cent, respectively
- the increase in head office expenses actually related to consultancy services and planned redundancy costs
- the present rate of profitability, as shown by the profit forecast for the second half to 2nd July, 1983, in fact produces an annual rate of return on assets of more than three times Dowable's figure

The relevant factors which Dowable conveniently ignores are that:—

- pre-tax profit for the second half to 2nd July, 1983 is expected to exceed £2.6 million, an increase of more than 68 per cent, over the comparable period in 1982
- following the reduction in the size of the Group, steps are being taken which will achieve savings of around £1.5 million per annum in our central and other costs
- the final dividend will reflect the underlying profitability of the Group
- the recently strengthened management team is confident that the recovery will be sustained and will gather momentum

Dowable clearly cannot dispute these points and therefore chooses to ignore them. Not surprisingly, Dowable concentrates on history whereas shareholders are more concerned with the present and the future. By adopting such tactics, Dowable obviously hopes to gain for itself the emerging benefits which are now showing through strongly. THESE BENEFITS BELONG TO YOU.

Your Board and its financial advisers, Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited, once again urge you to retain your shares and to participate in the strong recovery.

DOWABLE'S OFFER OF 60p PER SHARE IS WHOLLY INADEQUATE
HOLD ON TO YOUR SHARES TAKE NO ACTION
REJECT THIS OPPORTUNISTIC BID

This notice should be read in conjunction with the Rejection Document sent to Cope Allman International P.L.C. shareholders on 29th March, 1983. Each of the Directors of Cope Allman International P.L.C. has taken all reasonable care (either by taking part himself in supervising the preparation hereof, or by delegating the preparation to a duly authorised committee of the Board, and by disclosing to such committee any relevant facts known to him and any relevant opinions held by him) to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate. Each Director of Cope Allman International P.L.C. accepts responsibility accordingly.

Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co. and Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited have given and have not withdrawn their respective written consents to the extended use of their reports on the profit forecast made by the Directors of Cope Allman for the half year to 2nd July, 1983 and contained in the Rejection Document.

Brotherhood agrees bid from Thermo

By Jonathan Clare

An agreed bid has been launched for Peter Brotherhood by Thermo Electron Corporation, one of Brotherhood's biggest shareholders, as a last-ditch effort to prop up the ailing compressor manufacturer.

Thermo's offer follows the failure of Brotherhood to get its bankers to put up further loans after its poor trading prospects had made it impossible to ask shareholders for more cash.

Thermo, a US engineering company is offering 13p in cash which values the company at only £610,000 or 10p in cash and one redeemable preference share in a new subsidiary of Thermo. The offer compares with stated net assets of 102p. Only last year Brotherhood's shares were trading at over

140p. Yesterday, the shares fell 14p to 13p on the news.

Despite rationalization over the last two years, the directors say there is little chance of profits on current or expected levels of sales. In the half-year to September, Brotherhood lost £642,000 and the losses have continued into 1983.

Following Thermo's agreement to bid Brotherhood's banks have said they will maintain their support. But

Thermo's offer is conditional on the sale of surplus land and buildings. There will also be a further reorganization, with more redundancies.

Thermo has a market capitalization of \$88m and has held a 7 per cent stake in Brotherhood since 1980.

Increase in funds raised on capital market

Paris (AP Dow Jones) — Funds raised on the international capital market rose \$2,300m last month to \$15,900m, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Activity was up substantially from the \$10,800m volume recorded in January.

The increase, the OECD said, reflected a higher volume of international bond issues as the amount of dollar-denominated offerings rose during the month.

At the same time, there was a sharp recovery in foreign issuing activity on the US domestic bond market which offset a slowdown on the Swiss market.

New bond issues totalled \$7,200m last month, up \$1,900m from February, the OECD said.

Completions of international bank loans rose only \$430m to

\$8,700m. The OECD said the slight increase was mainly the net result of a decline in borrowing by OECD member countries and a sharp increase in lending to members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec).

The volume of bank lending to Opec countries soared to \$1,500m last month from \$170m in February and \$294m in January. Borrowing among OECD members dropped to \$1,400m from \$2,500m in February.

Borrowing by non-Opec producing countries in March amounted to \$5,700m compared with \$5,600m in February.

The OECD noted that both figures include major bank lendings to Brazil and Mexico.

In February Brazil borrowed \$4,400m. Mexico borrowed \$5,000m in March.

Germans relax option trading regulations

Frankfurt (Reuters) New rules designed to revitalize share option trading on West German stock exchanges came into effect yesterday.

They coincided with the biggest share rally here since the war. The widely-followed 100 share index of the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* newspaper struck a record high level before the Easter holiday break.

Despite the boom, however, officials were taking a cautious view of the likely impact of the option changes. Flert Herbert Schlicht, Frankfurt, Bourse executive managing director, said, "the timing is a fortunate coincidence, but we are not making any forecasts just yet."

Options — contracts to buy or sell shares at a fixed price at an agreed future date — have been traded on German bourses since 1970, but volume has been small.

The changes are designed to remove obstacles which have hindered development of a healthy secondary market, by making easier comparison between contracts on different shares.

The new rules introduce a graduated price structure for option contracts linked to the market price of the corresponding share. Up to now the price was fixed arbitrarily by the issuer.

They also mean there will be just four contract expiry dates against a previous 36.

Herr Schlicht said, "With these changes we hope to make options more negotiable. This is a fundamental change and, after this, we should only need to fine-tune the system."

Frankfurt has gradually increased its dominance of option trading in Germany and took 98 per cent of the country's option market in 1982 against 70 per cent in 1970.

WALL STREET

Beecham hopes to double US sales

(NYT News Service) — Beecham, the chemical and consumer product company, is stepping up its expansion strategy that has served it well for more than a decade.

J. B. Williams, which Beecham bought from Nabisco Brands last September for \$100m, brought the company such strong performers as Geritol, a vitamin preparation; Somnex, the sleep aid; and Aqua Velva, after shave.

With Ocho-based DAP, Schering-Plough's do-it-yourself subsidiary that Beecham purchased early this month for \$70m, the British group has acquired a third of the American market in sealants, caulks and fillers.

Together, the two purchases are expected to double Beecham's sales in the United States to an annual \$500m.

DAP, formerly Dicks, Acme-Pontius, extends the company's interests in adhesives. Beecham sold its Unu product line worldwide.

In acquisitions we tend not to move too far out of fields we are in, Sir Graham Wilkins, the chairman, said. DAP is step two in building an international business based on this type of product — a specialty product with room for improvement based on research.

Indeed, research is the key —

stone of operations at Beecham, which is Britain's 39th-largest company in terms of sales, according to Datastream International, a computer service company. Beecham markets its products in more than 200 countries and earned \$213m last year on sales of \$2,508m with 60 per cent derived from foreign operations.

The vigour of the company's pharmaceuticals, whose earnings slightly outranked consumer products, dates to research conducted in the late 1950s by a group of Beecham scientists. They learned to manipulate the chemical structure of penicillins to produce a wide range of new antibiotics. These semisynthetic penicillins have proved to be the core of Beecham's pharmaceutical expansion.

Most Americans are better acquainted with Beecham's aggressively marketed consumer products.

"You cannot claim to be an international company unless you are important in the United States," Sir Graham Wilkins said. "We have had five important acquisitions there since 1971 and the reason is that in whatever sphere we are in, the United States represents at minimum 20 per cent of our market, and this can go up to 40 in some areas."

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	10 1/4 %
BCCI	10 1/4 %
Consolidated Crds.	10 1/4 %
C. Hoare & Co.	10 1/4 %
Lloyds Bank	10 1/4 %
Midland Bank	10 1/4 %
Nat Westminster	10 1/4 %
TSB	10 1/4 %
Williams & Glyn's	10 1/4 %

* All rates are subject to change without notice.

Granville & Co Limited.

(Formerly M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited)
27/28 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1982-83	High	Low	Current	Price	Chgs	Open	Close	YTD	P/E	Div
142 120	Ass Brit Ind Ord	134	—	6.4	4.8	7.8	10.2	—	—	—
158 117	Ass Brit Ind CULS	150	—	10.0	6.7	—	—	—	—	—
74 57	Airprung Group	63	—	6.1	9.7	18.0	18.0	—	—	—
46 32	Armstrong & Rhodes	32	—	4.3	13.4	3.6	6.3	—	—	—
314 197	Barden Hill	312	—	11.4	3.7	13.1	16.5	—	—	—
137 100	CCL 11.0% Conv Pref	137	—	15.7	11.5	—	—	—	—	—
270 210	Cindico Group	210	—	17.6	8.4	—	—	—	—	—
86 52	Deborah Services	52	—	6.0	11.5	3.4	9.3	—	—	—
90 75	Emak Horrell	92	—	—	7.2	8.2	—	—	—	—
90 75	Frank Horrell Pr Ord 87	90	—	8.7	9.6	10.1	10.8	—	—	—
63 61	Frederick Parker	62	—	7.1	11.5	3.9	6.2	—	—	—
55 34	George Blair	34	—	—	5.9	12.3	—	—	—	—
100 74	Ind Prec Castings	74	—	7.3	9.4	10.0	12.6	—	—	—
158 100	Int Conv Pref	156	—	15.7	10.1	—	—	—	—	—
143 44	Jackson Group	143	—	7.5	5.2	4.4	9.1	—	—	—
202 111	James Burrough	202	—	9.6	4.8	14.7	16.4	—	—	—
260 148	Robert Jenkins	148	—	20.0	13.5	1.6	23.5	—	—	—
83 54	Scrutons "A"	70	—	5.7	8.1	9.1	10.9	—	—	—
167 112	Torday & Carlisle	112	—	11.4	10.2	5.0	8.6	—	—	—
29 21	Unilock Holdings	25 1/2	—	0.46	1.8	—	—	—	—	—
85 64	Walter Alexander	64	—	6.4	10.0	4.6	6.6	—	—	—
270 214	W. S. Yates	263 1/2	—	17.1	6.5	4.1	8.4	—	—	—

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

"Profits up in difficult market conditions"

Sir Ronald McIntosh KCB
Chairman, APV HOLDINGS PLC



	1982	1981
	£m	£m
Sales	339	293
Profit before tax	17.6	16.4
Earnings per share	34.86p	37.27p
Ordinary dividends	10.5p	9.6p

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement:

- ★ Dividend increased for sixteenth successive year.
- ★ Net borrowings reduced by £6m.
- ★ Increased investment in new technology despite recession.
- ★ Orders in 1982 up 17%: improvement continues in 1983.

APV — market leaders in advanced process plant for the food, beverage and chemical industries.

Copies of the Report and Accounts will be available after 29th April 1983 from the Secretary.

APV HOLDINGS PLC
P.O. Box 4, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 2QB.

The AGM will be held on 29th May at the Institute of Directors, 116 Pall Mall, London SW1.



